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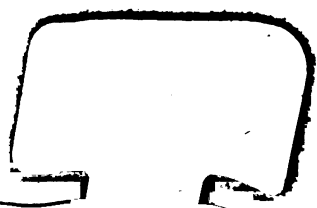
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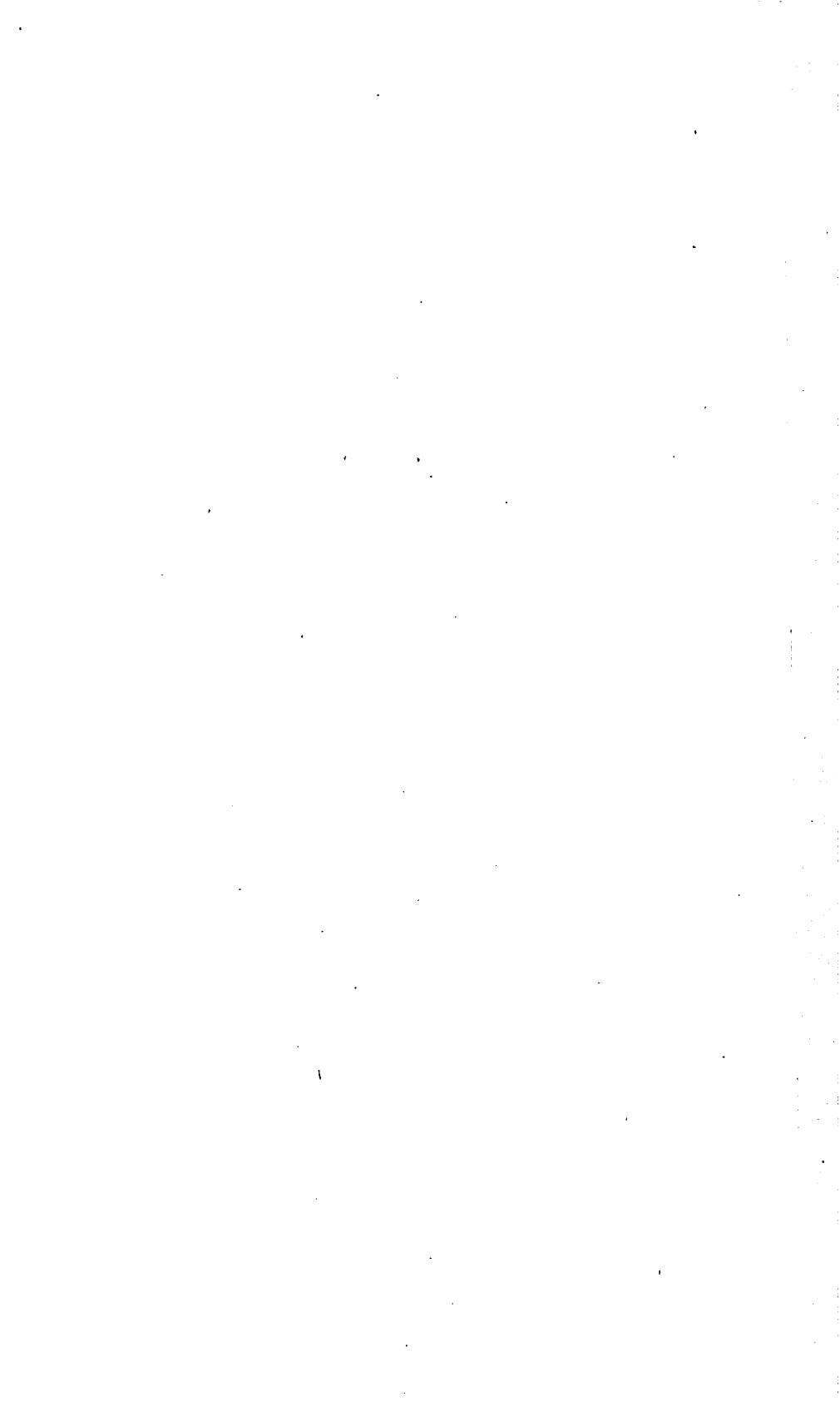


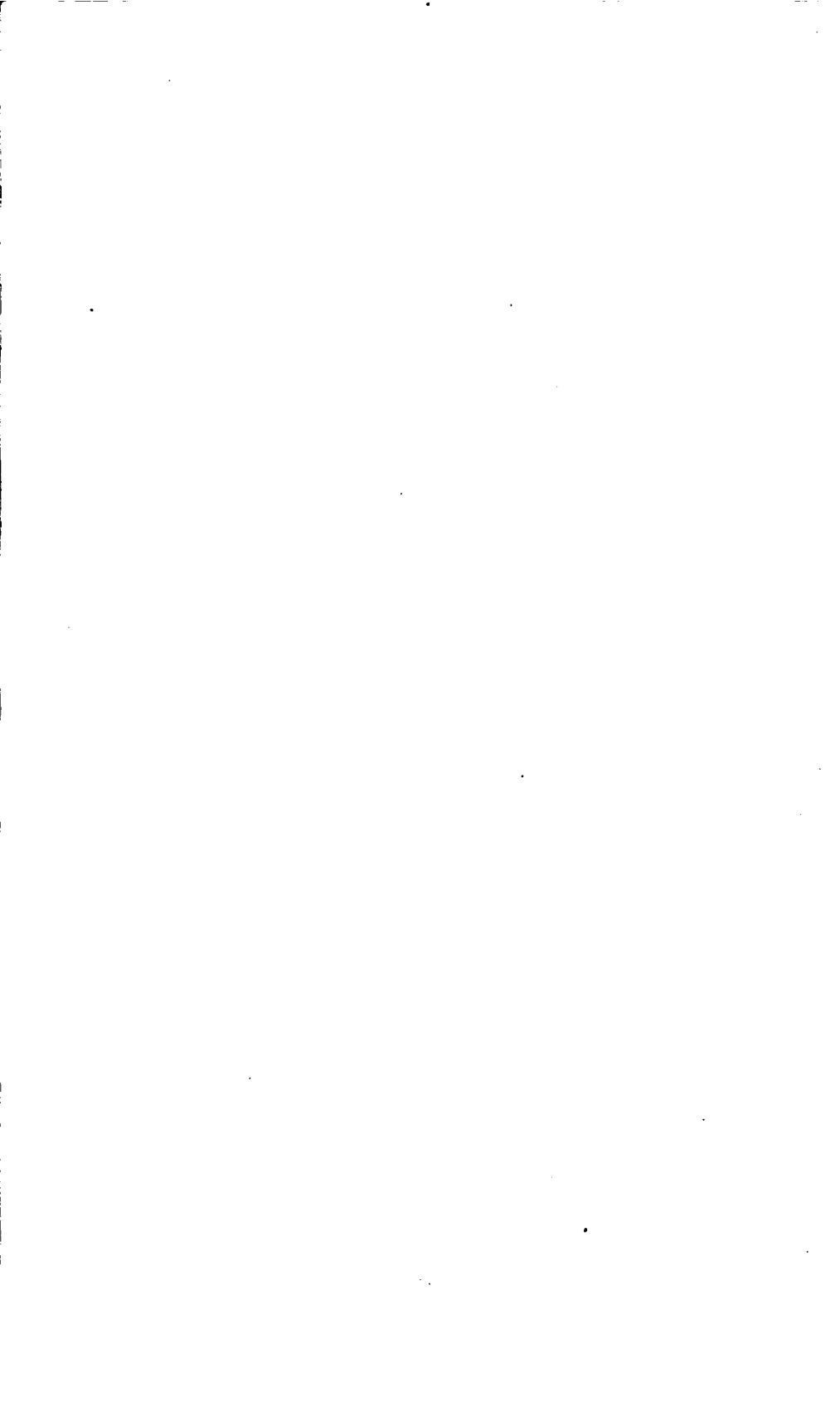
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1974









JUL 8 1908 American National Institute, Paris.

58TH CONGRESS,  
3d Session.

SENATE.

DOCUMENT  
No. 167.

*Mrs Russell Sage*  
*from Matilda*  
*62 m 56 ct*

1895-1905

# AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE

(PRIX DE PARIS)

(PARIS, FRANCE)

FOUNDED BY MATILDA SMEDLEY

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF  
NEW YORK, DECEMBER 9, 1895

Act to reincorporate passed the United States Senate April 18, 1904

HENRI VON DAUR, Secretary-General

WASHINGTON  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
1905

(Amel)  
STN

C.R.

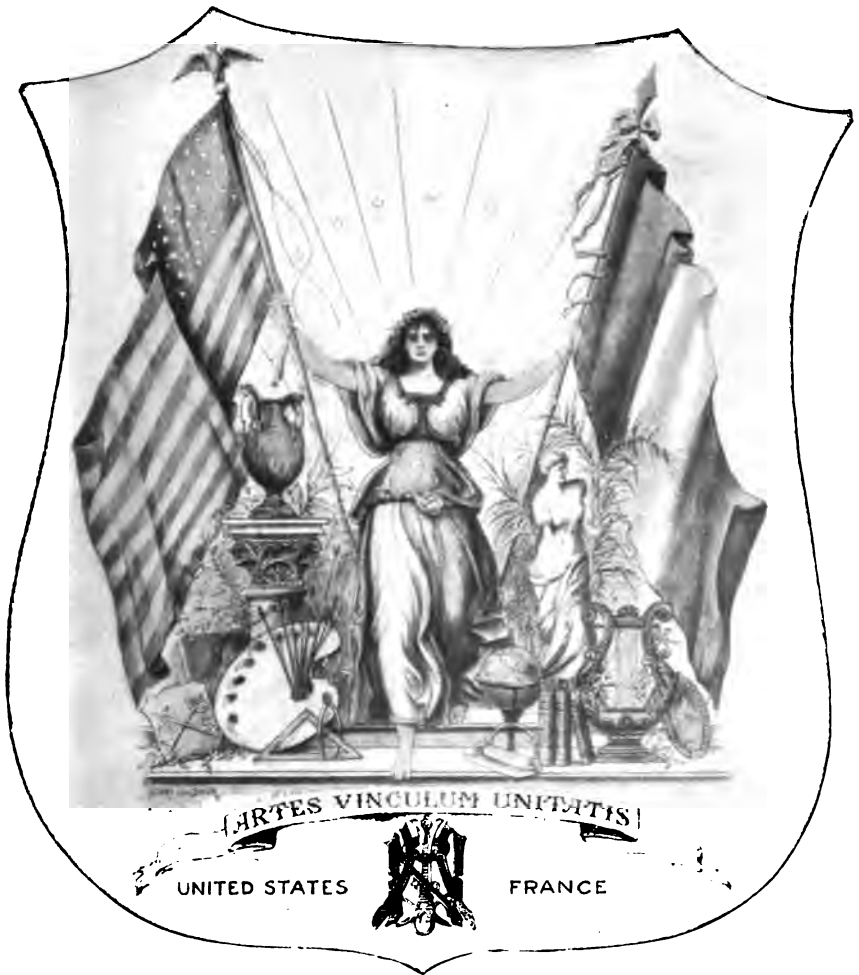
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[The American National Institute (Prix de Paris) for American students.]

The "Prix of Paris" consists of a three years' scholarship, including tuition and all living expenses (similar to the Prix de Rome of France), and will be awarded upon competition. Its aim is to provide lessons from the greatest masters of France for such students as shall have most distinguished themselves at home. The working of the institute will be insured by a scholarship fund, either by private subscription or by the States of the Union, as may be legislated for by the States. Where it will be found to the advantage of country and student, a supplementary year will be added for travel and research.

EMBLEM



Frontispiece.



IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*January 28, 1905.*

*Ordered,* That there be printed for the use of the Senate one thousand copies of Senate Document Three hundred and ninety-eight, Fifty-sixth Congress, relating to the American National Institute at Paris.

Attest:

CHARLES G. BENNETT, *Secretary.*  
By H. M. ROSE, *Chief Clerk.*

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*February 18, 1905.*

*Ordered,* That the reprint of Senate Document Three hundred and ninety-eight, Fifty-sixth Congress, first session, concerning the proposed American National Institute at Paris, shall include all new matter, so as to bring it up to date.

Attest:

CHARLES G. BENNETT, *Secretary.*  
By H. M. ROSE, *Chief Clerk.*





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# AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE. (PRIX DE PARIS.)



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## PREFACE.

True education, as any thoughtful mind knows, does not imply mere familiarity with the facts taught by the sciences and the arts, but includes all things which furnish impulse toward what is true, good, and just.

We do not educate a man or woman by teaching them things they do not know, but by making them something more and better than they know how to call forth of themselves; by giving them the environment and opportunity to find themselves and the God-given talent and genius embodied in every soul. Everything which calls forth this power for good must be considered in the light of education.

We hold that the time has come that a national institution should exist to have a guiding influence over such gifts, because no such censorship has been established. The present manner of treating this tremendous force is such as to deprive it of any real educational value, and enlists it almost entirely in the service of avarice on the one hand and indifference and haphazardness on the other, thereby producing a chaotic condition affecting the good of the general public, and the well being of the student of science and the arts all over the country.

Realizing that the fundamental evil is a want of organized censorship, and that in this United States such an institution, to succeed, must be carried out on national lines—national pride—and built out of our own native talent and genius by fostering the best, and securing to the student that position and recognition such as Europe gives to their genius and talent.

This alone will overcome the necessity of importing foreigners to point us the way and to contribute scholarships for the development of our country's genius on scholarships abroad.

To accomplish this we have endeavored in the work of the American National Institute to enlist the leaders of the nation of the central government at Washington to help centralize this great army of human beings who should not be deprived of their birthright, but fitted by education to develop the native genius and ennoble mankind—who are being dwarfed, starved, and degraded—for we must confess that the gifts of God are many, and he who seeks his livelihood outside his natural gifts is either a mediocrity or a failure; hence this great discontent and this turmoil of poverty which millions are contributed yearly to foster.

The gift of rare genius is a force ever struggling to express itself for good or ill. A man born with the gift of a true statesman could no more be at his best as a sculptor than could the sculptor or architect be at his best as a statesman, and neither would make a financier

or leader of men in the financial world, as is proven every day by failures.

The time has come for beautifying Washington, our capital; but what will that beauty bring with it? for, without a national university, a national conservatory, a national theater, a national gallery, outside of the limited time of Congress it will only attract for a day the teeming thousands of wealthy citizens all over these United States, who, after a day's admiration of their country's capital, will sail across the ocean, seeking culture and the arts of Europe. Then why should we blame the gifted student for doing the same thing, though they may have to sacrifice (and is known), many times starve—even die—in this pursuit for development in so rich an atmosphere as Europe has to offer. They are only seeking success in their world, such as the financier seeks in his world.

We contend that the time has come for the Central Government as a center and head to take the lead—each State of the Union following, either by private contribution or legislation—establish a scholarship fund, to be given the prize student after competition—thereby creating a center in each State of the Union from which the student may be enabled to become the master, who will then devote themselves, and feel it an honor in so doing, to building up at the capital such institutions as every capital of Europe possesses.

The prize student will take pride in carrying out such a national work because the nation has done something to make it possible to become a prize student, out of which will evolve the master. Such a scholarship gives the opportunity for the student to come in touch with the activities of the arts and sciences of the Old World, by which they may be enabled to learn how to transport to our country that atmosphere only in which such institutions can live and rise to the best.

The unavoidable conviction is at times forced upon every struggling student of these branches of education that talent and true industry are not the qualities which command financial success, but find themselves held in little esteem by the public; by this their own self-esteem is weakened, and the soil is prepared for the sowing of weaker thought, if not evil. At this hour of temptation a strong arm is needed, and what stronger arm shall we enlist than our Government?

This is not an idea or theory, but a fact which has been abundantly demonstrated in the work of the American National Institute, as is set forth in this public document, which should be read by every mother and father in this great country; it is filled with the expression of the best brains of America, France, and of other European nations.

M. Jules Cambon, the former ambassador from France to this country, at the unveiling of the Rochambeau monument at Washington, spoke of the arts of his country with pride, and justly might he do so. Nevertheless, his expression gives us, as a nation, food for thought, and the first is, when will an American ambassador speak of American arts in the presence of some foreign nation? All the world listens when our finance is the subject, but when the arts, no one. Are we to forever blush and suffer national humiliation, even in the face of the superb talent that exists in this great country—largely dormant, or if at all active inciting little or no attention—simply because our Government has thus far neglected the high duty it owes its loyal citizens?

Shall our legislators find one excuse or another for not doing what their constituents ask of them?

Is there a man, woman, or child with the true American spirit who does not hope and pray that some day in the near future our representatives will respond to the universal cry of the people for national institutions in the arts and sciences?

Why should we, with our genius and vast wealth, fall behind all European nations, all of whom pride themselves in national fostering of their talent and genius? They know that these God-given gifts are more likely to be found in the peasant than in the rich or titled aristocracy; therefore they sustain higher class institutions in which the arts and sciences can be promulgated and finished.

We, as individuals, amount to what we can make of ourselves—as a nation we represent that which demands the full respect among nations, so when we seek to take our place alongside our neighbors, who sustain the atmosphere which fosters in higher education, we must be fortified with something more than the endowment of some private teacher or institution; we must tender the credentials of our nation. This, and this alone, will mean we have arrived at a national standard.

The exodus of thousands of students every year to Europe, and especially to Paris—the center of activity in art and science—for instruction, prove that there is a fundamental principle lacking, and we see in the different realization of the American National Institute in Paris, under national control, the only remedy for their condition.

Students who go to Europe are at the most critical period of their lives—left without any supervision—and for this reason we attach very great importance to the residential system of the American National Institute—where the flag of our nation will float—where the student will not lose sight of being an American and become swallowed up by other nations, for life in a foreign university is very attractive to the American student, especially when that friendly nation supplies the financial means for their environments.

This institute, through its well-planned organization, has for its object to direct and guide the student in that great city and by undergoing first at home an examination, as will be provided by each State through competition, there will be awarded to the best student a free scholarship for three years' study at the institute in Paris.

The students will be called "prize students," or "pensionnaires du Prix de Paris," as France calls their laureate students of the Prix de Rome at the Villa Medici at Rome. The fortunate prize winners will be able to receive all the benefits of this organization in a national institute, over which our nation's flag will wave, well protected from all temptations of a great metropolis.

After the three years' study in Paris a competition will be organized for one year supplementary scholarships of travel to other art centers of Europe, according to choice and usefulness for the competitors.

This organization will eradicate the evil of unwarranted experiments and keep many at home who will be better off and will not expose themselves to false illusions and deception or as a mere experiment or a pleasure trip to Paris, but a most profitable sojourn in that mecca of art, after having won the honor of being a prize student at home to go under the best auspices abroad.

The real purpose of studying in Europe should be to afford the diligent student that breadth of culture which is only attainable by a residence in foreign countries, and by the intercourse with the masters

of reputation of the Old World otherwise expressed they will find in European teaching additional elements of strength and knowledge.

Another fact that speaks for the utility of an institution like the proposed one is that Paris being so rich in institutions, in lectures of all kinds, the student who draws up in his respective State of America the programme of his studies in Paris, comes to a standstill, embarrassed by the multiplicity of programmes he has before him.

On the other hand, the different schools and faculties of France have courses of a somewhat similar nature which do not replace each other, but which at first sight are not sufficiently distinct for the student to know how to choose between them.

By the provision of a well-organized board of professors and a competent jury in the American National Institute no mistake or delay is possible, once a student enters this establishment as a prize scholar.

But it is not only for the study that we are anxious that our youth shall acquire perfection during a period of years at Paris, but also for what we might call "the art of life."

The United States have realized in certain respects a marvelous progress, a genius of invention prevails, and the spirit of enterprise, but they are carried away by the feverish activity of an existence which leaves little or no place for meditation.

Undoubtedly youth is always attracted to those who present the elements of arts and science with order and clearness, whose explorations dissipate all haziness in the minds of the students, laying before them, not the doubts and difficulties they passed through themselves before finding out the truth, but the acquired result of the struggle, that certainty which gives rest to the intelligence and forms a reliable starting point for the work and initiative of new generations. These are the essentially French merits which we fully appreciate.

Our students have often neglected that inner life, which they need, however, in which to find a refuge from the daily round to commune with himself by being still.

Nothing predisposes the mind to these general reflections like the artistic and historical surroundings of such an ancient country as France. Its history, in the cycle of centuries, has accumulated monuments and traditions which constitute an atmosphere whose vivifying influence no foreigner can resist.<sup>a</sup>

At the end of the eighteenth century, when the United States acquired her independence and commenced to organize her national life on a durable basis, it was with the help of France that this was accomplished, consequently we have old ties that legitimize a more intimate union between the two nations.

We can not refrain from our recommendation for our youth to devote themselves to the study of the French language and especially to those whose aspirations lead them to become sooner or later competitors for the Paris prize.

We are quoting a word on this subject from Thomas Jefferson, one of the most revered Presidents of the United States:

French is the language generally employed in all international communications. It has received the sacred deposit of human science in a larger measure than any other idiom living or dead.

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<sup>a</sup> Why have the Parisians such a keen perception of the beautiful? It is because they are brought up in a city abounding with galleries and art treasures, or, as a well-known writer expresses it, "The accumulated genius of ages."

When the time comes that our laureate students will live in the institute they will be well directed in their respective studies, but they will at the same time enjoy the life of the real Parisian population, and be enabled to discover many excellent qualities, such as are mostly ignored by the traveling foreigner who only lives in luxurious hotels while in Paris and often goes home with false impressions and prejudice against the French nation and their capital. Such will be the privilege of our prize students and the advantage over the average stranger. Besides the many resources of the best instruction that Paris can afford the student will find in the American National Institute many other valuable advantages, for instance, a well-stocked library, an art gallery with casts and pictures generously offered by the best masters of the day. Musicians will find good pianos and organs, and, what is most welcome to every diligent scholar, they will be able to study in a comfortable room to themselves after the agitation and noise of the day. What benefaction lies in this solitary reflection every scholar will understand.

But it would be rather cruel and perhaps even dangerous to isolate a large body of students from the warm cheeriness of hospitable homes without supplying right opportunities to develop and gratify the social being.

To this end entertainments will be given under the direction of accredited teachers such as are chosen under the direction of the institute.

At such entertainments the young students can give, outside of their regular lessons, proof of their ability for the benefit of others, and at the same time it will be an exercise for them. To be placed on the programme on such occasions will be the reward of excellency in their pursuits and will be a good incentive for ambitious students.

In order to facilitate and encourage every branch of study the knowledge of the French language is absolutely necessary, and to this end French masters will be engaged to lead the conversation at the table and at the recreation hours in addition to the regular study of the French language. Further, twice a month meetings will be arranged to which French students shall be invited, who will be recommended by the rector of the University of Paris.

Such an institute will not only give us great artists, but also competent teachers and a source of refinement and progress for future generations, whereby they will be enabled to walk hand in hand with those of the classic old continent.

There is no danger whatsoever that our students will lose their identity and love for their native country. On the contrary, they will learn to appreciate the United States for having generously provided means for the highest education, and they will bring home a multitude of elements to elevate our country and establish our nation's standard in supremacy in art, science, and literature, and thereby create environments to enrich our country on parallel lines with our progress and wealth.

The possibilities by following the scholarship program have been fully demonstrated during the three years' activity of the preliminary house at 50 avenue d'Iéna, all of which results are the outgrowth of twelve years' study and effort on the part of Americans who have always received the most cordial seconding of their efforts from the officials and people of France, as is shown by the accompanying public documents.



As an evidence of substantial interest in the work, the municipal council of the city of Paris has donated a site of ground for the express purpose, as set forth by the accompanying documents of, founding the institute, which documents have been accepted, and are now on file at the State Department. The work was indorsed by President McKinley, who, in his annual message to Congress, 1899, recommended the American National Institute. President Roosevelt has given his approbation, and all statesmen know it is a wise government that protects and harvests the talent and genius of its people and does not permit God-given endowments to run to waste through neglect or parsimonious provisions to secure the greatest good to advance the talent and genius of home and country.

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AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

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In the Senate of the United States, on January 27, 1904, Mr. Frye, President pro tempore of the Senate, introduced a joint resolution to incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France, which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. The following bill was reported by the committee as a substitute for the joint resolution:

AN ACT To incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That Chauncey M. Depew, Thomas Hunter, Count von Daur, John D. Crimmins, Thomas Hastings, J. Clarence Goodrich, Charles P. Gardiner, Candace Wheeler, Mary R. Callender, Caroline de Forest, John M. Carrere, Frederick Smedley, Sarah E. Henderson, Sarah E. Buckbee, and Matilda Smedley, all of the city of New York, State of New York; and Joshua L. Chamberlain, State of Maine; and Henry Vignaud, of Paris, France, their associates and successors, are hereby created a body corporate and politic in the District of Columbia by the name of the American National Institute in Paris, France, with the right to implead and be impleaded, to adopt a constitution, by-laws, and corporate seal.

The objects of this corporation are to construct a building in said city of Paris, and there to provide favorable conditions of surroundings and direction for American students, to be admitted under proper certificates of examination of fitness by competition, and to facilitate their studies and training in the arts and sciences, including architecture, sculpture, painting, applied design, music, dramatic art, literature, languages, scientific instruction, and research.

Sec. 2. That said corporation is hereby empowered to acquire property, both real and personal, by deed, lease, devise, subscription, purchase, gift, or by any other lawful means, in the United States and in France; and to take over, hold, and administer all the property of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris), a corporation heretofore incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, including all its scholarships, subscriptions, bequests, gifts, and pledges, and ground conceded by the municipality of the city of Paris, France, seal, and emblem.

Sec. 3. That the incorporators shall have power to add to their number and to fill any vacancy which may occur therein by reason of death, resignation, or disability.

Sec. 4. That the corporation shall determine the times and places of its meetings, and shall determine the number, tenure, duties, and salaries of the officers, committees, and agents of the corporation.

Sec. 5. That said corporation may send annually a report to the Secretary of State, who shall communicate to Congress such portion thereof as he may deem of national interest and importance.

SEC. 6. That said corporation or board of regents may send each year to the Library of Congress, subject to the approval of the Joint Committee on the Library of the two Houses of Congress, or such place as may be decided upon, such works of the students of the institute as may be agreed upon between the jurors of the American National Institute and the board of regents as suitable for preservation and exhibition.

SEC. 7. That all gifts and bequests of money to the institute, unless otherwise directed by the donor, shall be invested in United States bonds, so far as may be consistent with the conditions of such gifts and bequests.

SEC. 8. That any scholarship, donated or bequeathed, shall be applied to that branch of education specified by the donor.

Passed the United States Senate April 18, 1904.

Attest:

CHARLES G. BENNETT, *Secretary*.  
By H. M. ROSE, *Chief Clerk*.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *April 19, 1904.*

Referred to the Committee on the Library.

[Report No. 1018. Fifty-eighth Congress, second session.]

Mr. KEAN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, submitted the following report (to accompany S. 4594).

The Committee on Foreign Relations, to whom was referred the resolution (S. R. 35) to incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France, have had the same under consideration and report back a substitute (S. 4594) and recommend that it be passed.

In the Fifty-seventh Congress a similar measure passed the Senate.

Your committee beg leave to refer to Senate documents Nos. 121 and 126, Fifty-eighth Congress, second session, for further information upon this resolution.

*Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.*

Shelby M. Cullom, of Illinois.  
William P. Frye, of Maine.  
Henry Cabot Lodge, of Massachusetts.  
Clarence D. Clark, of Wyoming.  
Joseph B. Foraker, of Ohio.  
John C. Spooner, of Wisconsin.  
Charles W. Fairbanks, of Indiana.

John Kean, of New Jersey.  
John T. Morgan, of Alabama.  
Augustus O. Bacon, of Georgia.  
Hernando D. Money, of Mississippi.  
William A. Clark, of Montana.  
James B. McCreary, of Kentucky.

*House Committee on Foreign Relations.*

Robert R. Hitt, *Chairman*.

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

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L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

TRANSMITTING

A LETTER, WITH INCLOSURES, IN REGARD TO THE INCORPORATION OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS) AT PARIS, FRANCE.

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DECEMBER 22, 1904.

The Hon. JAMES T. MCCLEARY, M. C.,

*Chairman Committee on the Library.*

SIR: By your letter of April 20, 1904, the Department was informed that the bill (S. 4594) incorporating an American National Institute at Paris, had been referred by the House of Representatives to your committee. In response to your request for the Department's observations on the subject, my reply of the 21st of April showed the favorable attitude of this Department toward the measure. I beg to inclose copy of this correspondence for your convenient information.

I am now in receipt of a letter, dated the 16th instant, from the incorporators of the proposed institute, informing me that the municipal council of the city of Paris, on the 2d of December instant, took action granting a choice and ample site for the institute on the Champ-de-Mars, opposite the Trocadero, and providing that, in order to be available, the official acceptance by the institute must be made within one year. Copy of this communication is inclosed for the consideration of your committee.

I particularly invite the attention of the committee to the condition that this generous grant shall be officially accepted within one year. Until the organizers of the institute are duly incorporated as a legal body they are not officially competent to accept the site.

I respectfully urge that early consideration be given to the act of incorporation now pending before your committee.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, December 31, 1904.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
The Iowa, Washington, D. C.

MADAM: I inclose for your information copy of a letter from the chairman of the Committee on the Library of the House of Representatives, stating that he will lay before the committee the letter of the incorporators of the American National Institute at Paris, in regard to the offer of the municipal council of that city to donate a site for the institute.

Mr. McCleary's attention was called to the length of time within which the offer might be accepted.

I am, madam, your obedient servant,

F. B. LOOMIS,  
Assistant Secretary.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, D. C., December 23, 1904.

The Hon. JOHN HAY,  
Secretary of State.

SIR: Your letter of yesterday, addressed to me as chairman of the Committee on the Library, relative to the bill for incorporating an American National Institute at Paris, France, is received. I note your reference to the information received by you from the incorporators of the proposed institute that the municipal council of the city of Paris took action on the 2d instant granting a "choice and ample site for the institute on the Champ-de-Mars," conditioned upon its acceptance by the institute "within one year" of the date of the grant. A copy of the letter of the incorporators to you, relative to the matter, I find inclosed, as stated.

In reply I would say that as soon as possible I shall bring your letter and the accompanying documents to the attention of the Committee on the Library.

Respectfully, yours,

J. T. McCLEARY.

28 EAST FORTY-FIRST STREET, NEW YORK,  
December 16, 1904.

Hon. JOHN HAY,  
Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: Appreciating highly and feeling deeply grateful to you for your interest hitherto shown in the National American Institute in Paris, France, we, the undersigned incorporators nominated in the bill for its establishment, beg leave to invoke your further good offices in its interest.

The municipal council of the city of Paris, on the 2d instant, took action granting a choice and ample site to the institute, on the Champ-de-Mars directly opposite the Trocadero. In order to be available to the institute, the official acceptance by the institute must be made within one year from the date of the grant. In view of the fact that certain sites in Paris have been held available for four years last past for this purpose, the period now fixed by the council for acceptance does not seem unreasonably short. It is so brief, however, that it is essential that the incorporation of the institute, by the two Houses of Congress be completed with all possible promptness.

We therefore most earnestly request you, if it be consistent with your views, that you will put us under increased obligations, by taking any action which will tend to

expedite the incorporation of the institute, and so facilitate the erection of a building on the site, as suggested in your letter to the United States Senate in March last. In this connection we beg leave to inclose herewith printed extracts from the Paris edition of the New York Herald for December 4, 1904, and the Figaro of December 3, 1904. Permit us to subscribe ourselves, with great respect and gratitude,

Your obedient servants,

JOHN M. CARRERE.  
THOMAS HASTINGS.  
JOHN D. CRIMMINS.  
THOMAS HUNTER.  
CAROLINE DE FOREST.  
MARY CALLENDER.  
SARAH BUCKBEE.  
FREDERICK G. SMEDLEY.  
MATILDA SMEDLEY.

# LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE.

STATE DEPARTMENT, April 21, 1904.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
2 Iowa Circle, Washington, D. C.

MADAM: For your information, and referring to previous correspondence, I take pleasure in inclosing copies of a letter from the chairman of the Committee on the Library of the House of Representatives, and of this Department's reply in regard to the passage of the pending bill for incorporation of the American National Institute at Paris.

I am, madam, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, December 22, 1904.

JOHN M. CARRERE, Esq., and others.  
*Incorporators of the National American Institute in Paris,*  
28 East Forty-first Street, New York City.

GENTLEMEN AND LADIES: I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, informing me of the action of the municipal council of the city of Paris in granting, on the 2d instant, a site to the National American Institute on the Champ de Mars, opposite the Trocadero, and with the provision that it be officially accepted within one year.

As the pending legislation for the incorporation of the institute is before the Committee on the Library of the House, I have taken pleasure in sending that Committee a copy of your letter, and other correspondence, urging that early consideration be given to the bill of incorporation. I have also communicated copies of the correspondence to Hon. W. P. Frye for his information.

I am, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

CARRERE & HASTINGS, ARCHITECTS,  
28 EAST FORTY-FIRST STREET,  
New York, December 23, 1904.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am sending you herewith a copy of a letter just received from Secretary Hay, which will interest you.

With best wishes and the compliments of the season, I beg to remain

Yours, very truly,

JOHN M. CARRERE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, March 31, 1904.

THE HON. WILLIAM P. FRYE,  
*President pro tem., United States Senate,*

DEAR MR. SENATOR: I am very glad to learn by your letter of the 29th that the success of the measure for incorporating the American National Institute at Paris seems to be assured.

The subject has interested me very much. It seems to me not a mere experiment, but to rest already on practical foundations and with good prospect of further development, so as to be of great aid to the American art student, as well as most creditable to our national reputation for enterprise in useful and effective directions.

The signal generosity of the municipality of Paris in offering a valuable site for this institute building deserves national recognition on our part in some substantial shape. The erection of a tasteful building, without loss of time, would be the most effective way of meeting the just expectations of the municipality. As soon as the resolution of incorporation becomes law, I shall send certified copy thereof to our ambassador at Paris and direct him to communicate it to the French Government and to lend his aid toward the final arrangements for taking over the site given by the city of Paris.

I am, my dear Mr. Frye, very faithfully yours,

JOHN HAY.

COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, UNITED STATES,  
Washington, D. C., April 20, 1904.

HON. JOHN HAY,  
*Secretary of State, Washington.*

SIR: I inclose herewith a copy of S. 4594, to incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France.

This bill passed the Senate on the 18th instant and has been sent to the House of Representatives and referred to the Committee on the Library for consideration.

I note by the accompanying reports that the State Department has taken an active interest in the subject covered by this bill, and I should like to be advised if, in your judgment, there seems to be any special reason why this bill should pass the House of Representatives at this session. I should be pleased to receive any observations or suggestions which you may deem proper to present.

Very respectfully yours,

J. T. McCLEARY,  
*Chairman of the Committee on the Library.*

STATE DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, D. C., April 21, 1904.

HON. JAMES T. McCLEARY,  
*Chairman Committee on the Library, House of Representatives.*

SIR: I am pleased to learn by your letter of yesterday that the bill incorporating the American National Institute at Paris has passed the Senate and been referred by the House of Representatives to your committee for consideration. I note your suggestion that you would be glad to receive any observation from this Department on the bill, and your inquiry whether, in my judgment, there is any special reason why it should pass the House of Representatives this session.

This Department has indorsed the movement for the incorporation of the American National Institute at Paris and has favorably commended the project to the attention of Congress. In a letter to the President pro tempore of the Senate dated February 28, 1903—

"This Department has for a number of years taken much interest in the success of this movement, designed to establish in Paris a national institute for the study of the arts and sciences, which will at the same time afford a home for young American men and women students, surrounding them with the wholesome influence and moral protection so desirable in a great capital \* \* \*."

"Once set on a practical footing, with appropriate recognition of its character by the Governments of the United States and France, the rapid development and enlargement of its sphere of utility and protection may be expected with confidence."

And in a later communication dated January 23, 1904, to Senator Frye, the Department said:

"It is sincerely hoped that Congress during its present session will recognize this meritorious project by the passage of a bill of the character of the inclosed."

Four years have elapsed since the generous offer by the municipality of Paris of a valuable site for the institute building in the heart of the city.

Favorable action on the pending measure without further delay would seem but a just recognition by this Government of the exceptionally gracious and distinguished act of the French municipality.

I have the honor to be, sir,  
Your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

UNITED STATES SENATE,  
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,  
Washington, April 7, 1902.

DEAR SENATOR CULLOM: I had an interview yesterday with Miss Smedley, who is very much interested, as you know, in an American national institute at Paris. She desires that an appropriation shall be made for the erection of a building there. Looking over the matter carefully, I find that there is no law whereby the Government is authorized to accept the real estate offered by the French Government or the city of Paris, on which such building is to be erected. Therefore there must be legislation on the subject before the Committee on Appropriations can take any action which shall be effective. I noticed that in the Fifty-sixth Congress, first session, the whole matter was considered by the Committee on Foreign Relations, or at least was referred to it, as shown by Executive Document No. 398. It seems to me that the plan is a valuable and meritorious one, but legislation is required, and your committee, or the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the House, will have to take the initiative. When the necessary legislation shall have passed I shall be glad to cooperate with the friends of the measure in securing a proper appropriation for the construction of a building.

Very truly, yours,

W. B. ALLISON.

HON. SHELBY M. CULLOM,  
Chairman Committee on Foreign Relations,  
United States Senate.

DECEMBER 11, 1897.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
Van Dyck Studios, 939 Eighth Avenue, New York City.

DEAR MADAM: I am in receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, inclosing circulars, etc.; also petition which I have caused to be introduced in the House and referred to the proper committee. The matter shall receive attention.

You say "I am not unmindful of your promise to give your interest and influence to help secure for the American National Institute a part of the appropriation given by the Government to the Paris Exposition." I do not want you to be left under an erroneous impression. While the matter will receive, so far as I am concerned, consideration, I am in no wise committed in the premises.

With respects, etc.,

J. G. CANNON.

[The New York Herald, Paris, Sunday, December 4, 1904.]

MISS SMEDLEY LEAVES PARIS.

Miss M. Smedley will sail to-day on the *Molke* for America and will proceed to Washington, where she intends to call the attention of the Government to the offer of a site for an American National Institute made by the conseil municipal of Paris.

Her brother-in-law, Herr von Daur, has received the following letter from M. Roger Lambelin, who presented her petition to the conseil municipal:

CHER MONSIEUR: J'ai regretté d'avoir manqué ce matin la visite de Miss Smedley et la vôtre, et j'ai maintenant le plaisir de vous informer que mon rapport a été adopté tout à l'heure par le conseil sans opposition.

L'administration préfectorale est donc invitée à entrer en pourparlers avec vous sur les bases indiquées dans le projet de délibération qui forme la conclusion du rapport.

Veuillez offrir mes respectueux hommages à Miss Smedley, qui pourra emporter aux États-Unis ce témoignage de sympathie de la ville de Paris, et agréer, cher monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

ROGER LAMBELIN.

[The New York Herald, Paris, Sunday, January 22, 1905.]

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

M. Henri von Daur, who has been in Paris for some weeks engaged in negotiations respecting the American National Institute, sailed yesterday for New York on the



*Champagne.* He is the bearer of important documents, and before his departure he received a letter from the State Department, Washington, which reads as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, January 6, 1905.

M. HENRI VON DAUR,

*Secretary-General, American National Institute, 24 avenue de Saxe, Paris.*

DEAR MR. VON DAUR: I am in receipt of your very kind and extremely informing letter of December 25, which I have read with much interest. I congratulate you very heartily upon the successes which you have already won, and I feel assured that the main difficulties are now obviated.

Very sincerely, yours,

J. B. LOOMIS.

[The Washington Post, Saturday, February 18, 1905.]

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE—PLOT OF GROUND GIVEN IN PARIS FOR THE BUILDINGS.

Mr. Henri von Daur, delegate and secretary-general of the American National Institute, arrived from Paris two weeks ago, with credentials and the plan of a plot of ground valued at \$100,000 (said document forwarded to him by Mr. Menant, director of municipal affairs, by authority of the prefect of the Seine, M. de Selves), whereupon to build the so much desired and needed institute.

Mr. von Daur was received yesterday by President Roosevelt, and has had interviews with the Secretary of State, Hon. John Hay; with the French ambassador, M. Jusserand; Senators Frye, Allison, Kean, Cullom; Representatives Hitt, Payne, McCleary, and other statesmen. Mr. von Daur, who is the brother-in-law of Miss Smedley, the founder of the American National Institute, is confident that the bill which is now before the House of Representatives will be passed without fail this session.

As this great project has already won the sympathy of a multitude of prominent citizens of the United States, the incorporators trust that steps will be taken to receive and take over the gift of ground that the municipal council of Paris, France, has so generously voted, as shown by the document of concession, dated December 2, 1904 (legalized by the ministry of foreign affairs in Paris and by the United States embassy), on the splendid report on the merits of the work by Mr. Roger Lambelin, member of the municipal council, under the presidency of Mr. Desplas; further, the \$25,000 in scholarships, and other sums for the scholarship fund, as well as valuable gifts in paintings, statuary, and books of the greatest living artists and literati of France, pianos, organs, etc.

The incorporators hope that a commission will be appointed by the Congress and the State Department to receive such gifts and give recognition in answer to such sympathy and generosity as has never before been extended to any foreign nation by France.

Mr. von Daur has also with him testimonial letters from the great masters of France, minister of public instruction, and the director of beaux arts, Mr. Marcel, in which they all promise their support and cooperation toward the final organization of this institute for the American prize students.

[The Evening Star, Washington, D. C., Monday, February 20, 1905.]

ACTION PROBABLE—BILL TO INCORPORATE AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN PARIS—GROUND DONATED BY CITY GOVERNMENT—PROJECT INDORSED BY MANY PROMINENT CITIZENS.

Action will probably be had at the present session of Congress on the bill pending before the House Committee on the Library to incorporate the American National Institute in Paris, France. The measure, which was introduced last April, has as its object the erection of a building in Paris and to provide favorable conditions of surroundings and direction for American students and to facilitate their studies and training in the arts and sciences, including architecture, sculpture, painting, applied design, music, dramatic art, literature, languages, scientific instruction and research.

The list of incorporators contains the names of many distinguished persons, among them Chauncey M. Depew, Thomas Hunter, Count von Daur, John D. Crimmins, Thomas Hastings, J. Clarence Goodrich, Charles P. Gardiner, Candace Wheeler, Mary R. Callender, Caroline de Forest, John M. Cerrere, Frederick Smedley, Sarah

E. Henderson, Sarah E. Buckbee, and Matilda Smedley, of New York City; Joshua L. Chamberlain, of Maine, and Henry Vignaud, of Paris, France.

The bill empowers the company to take over the property of the American National Institute, which has been already incorporated in New York. This property includes a plot of ground in Paris dedicated by the government of the city to the institute.

The measure further provides that the institute may send annually a report to the Secretary of State, for transmittal to Congress, and may also send each year to the Congressional Library, subject to the approval of the Joint Committee on the Library of the two Houses, such works of the students of the institute considered suitable for preservation and exhibition.

All gifts and bequests of money to the institute, it is provided, unless otherwise directed by the donor, shall be invested in United States bonds, and any scholarship donated or bequeathed shall be applied to that branch of education specified by the donor.

#### URGED BY STATE DEPARTMENT.

The passage of the bill has been strongly urged by Secretary of State Hay, who, in a letter on the subject, reviewed the plans and purposes of the institute and said that the State Department has for a number of years taken much interest in the success of the movement, designed to establish in Paris a national institute for the study of art which will at the same time afford a home for young American men and women students, surrounding them with the wholesome influences and moral protection so desirable in a great capital.

In a more recent letter to Congress Assistant Secretary of State Adees said:

"While occupying temporary quarters during the past three years, the institute has shown its capacity for good, both in its educational and in its moral sense. It has enlisted sympathy in France as well as in the United States, and now holds important donations of money and valuable works of art toward its establishment and maintenance. A good working nucleus for the necessary collections of paintings, statuary, and books already exists. Once set on a practical footing, with appropriate recognition of its character by the Governments of the United States and of France, the rapid development and enlargement of its sphere of utility and protection may be expected with confidence."

Mr. Adees's letter closed with the statement that "it is sincerely hoped that Congress, during the present session, will recognize this meritorious project by the passage of the bill."

#### GROUND VALUED AT \$100,000.

The arrival in Washington from Paris two weeks ago of Mr. Henri von Daur, delegate and secretary-general of the American National Institute, with a plan of the plot of ground, valued at \$100,000, dedicated by the city of Paris on which to build the institute, has revived interest in the bill.

Mr. von Daur was received the other day by President Roosevelt, and has had interviews with Secretary of State Hay, the French ambassador, M. Jusserand; Senators Frye, Allison, Kean, and Cullom; Representatives Hitt, Payne, McCleary, and other members of both Houses. Mr. von Daur, who is the brother-in-law of Miss Smedley, the founder of the American National Institute, is confident that the bill which is now before the House of Representatives will be passed without fail this session.

As the project has enlisted the sympathies of many prominent citizens of the United States, the incorporators have reason to hope that steps will be taken at once to take over the gift of ground by the city of Paris.

The incorporators want a commission appointed by Congress to receive gifts, such as the \$25,000 in scholarships.

Mr. von Daur has with him testimonial letters from the great masters of France, minister of public instruction and the director of beaux-arts, Mr. Marcel, in which they all promise their support and cooperation toward the final organization of this institute for the American prize students.

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS.

L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

IN RELATION TO

THE PROPOSED INCORPORATION OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL  
INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS) AT PARIS.

MARCH 15, 1905.—Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to  
be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, March 11, 1905.*

SIR: On January 22, 1904, a letter was addressed to the President pro tempore of the Senate by the Acting Secretary of State (copy attached), in regard to the proposed incorporation of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris.

At that time a bill for this purpose, which had been introduced as S. 7368 in the Fifty-seventh Congress, second session, and which had been passed by the Senate on February 28, 1903, had failed to obtain consideration in the House of Representatives. The Department had previously expressed its interest in the measure in the terms quoted in the letter of January 22, 1904, and on this latter date took occasion to express the hope that the meritorious project might be recognized by the passage of a similar measure during the Fifty-eighth Congress.

The same thing took place in the Fifty-eighth Congress. A bill similar to the former one was introduced and was passed by the Senate April 18, 1904. (S. 4594, 58th Cong., 1st sess.) It likewise failed to receive consideration in the House of Representatives, and died with the close of the Fifty-eighth Congress on March 4, 1905.

In the meantime the efforts of the incorporators of the American National Institute in Paris had obtained from the municipality of the city of Paris a definite gratuitous option of a desirable site facing the Champs de Mars upon which to establish the institute. That option by its terms expires December 2, 1905, and is otherwise accompanied by conditions not contemplated in the bill which had passed the Senate eight months before.

It is represented to me that the incorporators of the institute propose to make further efforts with the municipality of Paris to obtain extension and necessary amendment of the option, and that the probability of their succeeding in this would be increased if the measure for the incorporation of the institute were actually before the present Fifty-ninth Congress.

In view of the interest heretofore shown in the project by this Department, and taking into account the generous action of the municipality of Paris in offering to contribute a valuable site toward its realization, it seems not inappropriate to apprise you of the purpose and desire of the incorporators to keep the project alive and to express a hope that some way may be found by which this can be done.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

HON. CHARLES W. FAIRBANKS,  
*President United States Senate.*

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, January 22, 1904.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a copy of a letter from Miss Mathilda Smedley, with inclosures, looking to the incorporation of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France.

A bill for this purpose (S. 7368) was passed by the Senate on February 28, 1903, and I am informed was reported favorably to the House of Representatives, where it failed of consideration.

In regard to this bill the Secretary of State, in a letter addressed to you, wrote:

This Department has for a number of years taken much interest in the success of this movement, designed to establish in Paris a national institute for the study of art, which will at the same time afford a home for young American men and women students, surrounding them with the wholesome influences and moral protection so desirable in a great capital.

By referring to Senate Document No. 398, Fifty-sixth Congress, first session, you will find the purposes of the institute fully explained and a gratifying showing of the progress made toward its accomplishment. It has received the cordial support of the municipal administration of Paris, which has generously offered a large and valuable site, on renewable lease, at a nominal ground rent of 1 franc per annum, for the construction of the buildings of the institute. That document (No. 398) gives plots of the fourteen sites from which to make selection.

While occupying temporary quarters during the past three years the institute has shown its capacity for good both in its educational and in its moral sense. It has enlisted sympathy in France as well as in the United States, and now holds important donations of money and valuable works of art toward its establishment and maintenance. A good working nucleus for the necessary collections of paintings, statuary, and books already exists. Once set on a practical footing, with appropriate recognition of its character by the Governments of the United States and of France, the rapid development and enlargement of its sphere of utility and protection may be expected with confidence.

It is sincerely hoped that Congress during its present session will recognize this meritorious project by the passage of a bill of the character inclosed.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADEE,  
*Acting Secretary.*

Hon. WILLIAM P. FRYE,  
*President pro tempore United States Senate.*

(Inclosures:) From Miss M. Smedley, December 18, 1903; January 21, 1904; Senate Document No. 160, Fifty-seventh Congress, second session; S. 7368, Fifty-seventh Congress, second session.

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[From the Congressional Record, Wednesday, March 15, 1905.]

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

Mr. FRYE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for leave to introduce a bill and have it read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. It is a bill touching the American National Institute at Paris. It passed the Senate and was reported favorably in the House, but was not considered in that body. The city of Paris has made a gift of a fine site, costing \$100,000, and I simply desire that the bill may be introduced and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, so they may know there that the matter is still alive.

Mr. TELLER. I do not desire to object, but I wish to ask the Senator from Maine why he requests unanimous consent to introduce a matter of this kind?

Mr. FRYE. Because it has not been called in regular order.

Mr. TELLER. Oh!

The VICE-PRESIDENT. Without objection, the bill will be introduced.

Mr. FRYE. In connection with it I present certain papers, to be referred with the bill to the Committee on Foreign Relations and printed.

The bill (S. 1) to incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France, was read twice by its title, and, with the accompanying papers, which were ordered to be printed, referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. In this connection the Chair lays before the Senate a letter from the Secretary of State, transmitting certain information relative to the incorporation of the American National Institute at Paris, France.

Mr. FRYE. It should be printed and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The letter will be printed and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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[From the Evening Star, Wednesday, March 15, 1905.]

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE AT PARIS.

Senator Frye introduced a bill to-day to incorporate the American Institute at Paris. The bill, with a communication from the Secretary of State, was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. Mr. Frye stated that the object of introducing the bill was to notify the persons interested that the subject had not been allowed to die, but was before the Senate.

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[From the Washington Post, Friday, March 17, 1905.]

AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN PARIS—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT THANKED FOR HIS INTEREST IN THE PROJECT.

President Roosevelt yesterday received the French ambassador, Mr. Jusserand, and Senator Chauncey M. Depew, who introduced Miss Matilda Smedley, the





der general, and Mr. Henri von Daur, secretary-general of the American National Institute at Paris, France. Senator Depew said it was very gratifying to know that the Government of France and the city of Paris had given such generous patronage to the meritorious work for the American students—notably the municipality of the city of Paris—having voted a plot of ground upon which to erect the buildings to be known as the American National Institute.

The French ambassador expressed his pleasure and satisfaction to the President of the United States for such interest and support in encouraging such a work, which has received marked sympathy from France. Miss Smedley and Mr. von Daur thanked the President for his patronage, to which the President replied he would be glad to see this project, which had all his sympathies, soon become a fact.

Mr. von Daur, the secretary-general, leaves for New York, where he will spend several weeks before sailing for Europe.

# DOCUMENTS SETTING FORTH THE GIFT OF GROUND BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF PARIS, FRANCE, ON WHICH TO ERECT THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

CONSEIL MUNICIPAL DE PARIS,  
24 AVENUE DE SAXE, PARIS, LE VENDREDI 6 SOIR,  
Décembre 2 1904.

MONSIEUR: J'ai regretté d'avoir manqué ce matin la visite de Miss Smedley à votre, et j'ai maintenant le plaisir de vous informer que mon rapport a été lu tant tout à l'heure par le conseil sans opposition.

L'administration préfectorale est donc invitée à entrer en pourparler avec vous sur les bases indiquées dans le projet de délibération qui forme la conclusion du rapport.

Permettez-moi d'offrir mes respectueux hommages à Miss Smedley qui pourra emporter aux États-Unis ce témoignage de sympathie de la ville de Paris et agréer, cher monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

ROGER LAMBELIN,  
*President of the Fourth Commission.*

MONSIEUR HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secrétaire Général de l'Institut national américain.*

[Translation.]

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF PARIS,  
24 AVENUE DE SAXE,  
Paris, December 2, 1904.

SIR: I regret having missed yours and Miss Smedley's visit this morning and have now the pleasure of informing you that my report has just been adopted without opposition by the council.

The administration of the prefecture is in consequence invited to confer with you on the basis indicated in the plan of the resolution which forms the conclusion of the report.

Permit me to offer my respectful homage to Miss Smedley, who will be able to carry to the United States this mark of sympathy from the city of Paris.

I accept, dear sir, the assurance of my most distinguished sentiments.

ROGER LAMBELIN,  
*President of the Fourth Commission.*

HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General of the American National Institute.*



[Republic of France. Liberty. Equality. Fraternity.]

**PREFECTURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE SEINE.**

[Extract from the record of the verbal proceedings of the sessions of the municipal council of the city of Paris.]

Session of the 2d of December, 1904.

Concession of a plat of land in the city of Paris for the National American Institute.

## THE COUNCIL,

"In view of the renewed petition of the founders of the National American Institute;" in view of the printed report by Mr. Roger Lambelin, in the name of the fourth commission, resolves:

ARTICLE I. The administration is invited to enter into negotiations with the founders of the American National Institute for the purpose of conceding to them, under a renewable lease for a long term of years, at an annual rental of 1 franc, a plat of ground in the city of Paris, situated preferably within the zone to be set off at the border of the Champs du Mars, for the construction of the building for the said institute.

ART. 2. The plans for the proposed structure are to be subject to the approval of the architectural authorities of the city.

ART. 3. The compact to be entered into, and which will be submitted to the council, will expressly stipulate that in case the Government of the United States does not, within the space of one year, make a donation to the National American Institute of the sum of \$250,000, then the concession granted by the city shall be null and void.

Certified copy.

The secretary-general of the prefecture.

AUTRAN.

The above resolution can not become operative until it shall be approved by competent authority.

The secretary-general.

AUTRAN.

Accountant for foreign affairs, 20th December, 1904. Received 1 franc. Receipt No. 31.

The minister of foreign affairs certifies as to the genuineness of the signature of Mr. Autran.

[SEAL.]

AUTRAN.

Mr. HENRI VON DAUR,

*Secretary-General of the American National Institute.*

PARIS, December 20, 1904.

For the minister.

For the chief of bureau, deputy.

[SEAL.]

A. DE SAINT CLAIRE.

UNITED STATES EMBASSY,

*Paris, December 21, 1904.*

The seal of the ministry of foreign affairs and the signature of Mr. A. de Saint Claire are certified to be genuine.

[U. S. SEAL.]

HENRI VIGNAUD,

[FRENCH SEAL.]

*Secretary to the United States Embassy.*

[From the Official Municipal Bulletin of Saturday, December 3, 1905.—Translation.]

CITY OF PARIS, FRANCE.

Concession of a plat of ground in the city of Paris to the American National Institute.

MR. PRESIDENT: The order of the day calls for the discussion of the report presented by Mr. Roger Lambelin, in the name of the fourth commission, to the effect

that there be accorded to the American National Institute the concession, under a long lease, of a plat of ground in the city of Paris.

This report has been printed and distributed (No. 76 of 1904).

Mr. Roger Lambelin, reporter.

**GENTLEMEN:** By a petition dated on the 4th of July, 1903, Mr. Henri von Daur, secretary-general of the American National Institute renewed his petition to the city of Paris for a gratuitous concession of a tract of communal land upon which to erect an edifice. In this building there would be established, under the patronage of the United States Government, a school of arts and sciences distributing annual prizes (the Prix de Paris) by a system analogous to our French school in Rome.

On two different occasions the municipal council has been called upon to consider this request.

By a resolution dated December 28, 1899, upon the report of Mr. Clairin, in the name of the fourth commission, the principle of a grant of land was admitted, and the administration was invited to enter into negotiations with the founders of the American National Institute for the purpose of conceding to them upon a long and renewable lease, at an annual rental of 1 franc, a site in the city of Paris for the construction of a building for the above-named institute.

The administration held a conference with the founders of the institute, who on their side solicited from the United States Government a donation of \$250,000 to cover the expenses of constructing a suitable building.

But the municipal council, taking into consideration a proposition by Mr. Fortin and adopting the conclusions of Mr. Bussat, decided, on the 12th of July, 1900, that the resolution of the 28th of December, 1899, should be recalled.

Being called upon a third time to pronounce upon this question, the fourth commission has made a profound study of the subject, taking as a basis the former reports of Messrs. Clairin and Bussat.

New light has been thrown upon the question and new information has been furnished, enabling the commission to-day to propose to you a definite solution.

Incorporated on the 9th of December, 1895, under the laws of the State of New York, the American National Institute was founded by an American lady of high intellectual culture, Miss Matilda Smedley.

The principal object of this foundation is to procure for the young men and women of the United States who are devoting themselves to studies in the various arts and sciences the means for completing their studies in Paris under the instruction of the best French masters.

From the time of its origin this initiative by Miss Smedley has met with warm sympathy on both sides the Atlantic.

There was constituted in New York a committee of patronage (honorary committee) designed to form an examining jury for the students.

This committee comprises in its membership the presidents of the National Academy of Design, and the American Association of Water Colorists, and the Metropolitan School of Fine Arts, and the National Society of Sculpture, and the New York Society of Architects, etc.

In France many eminent artists have promised to interest themselves personally in this work and to give courses of instruction and lectures upon all subjects touching upon sciences and arts and literature.

But financial cooperation is necessary to the completion of such an enterprise.

Miss Smedley and her colleague, Mr. von Daur, have already found assistance.

By a legal instrument dated December 15, 1898, Mrs. Walden Pell made a gift toward the foundation of the institute of \$10,000 (50,000 francs) for a scholarship designed specially for music.

Another gift of a like sum was made to Miss Smedley by Mrs. James Jackson for a scholarship, who also promised to contribute to the foundation of the library.

It is highly probable that when the projects undertaken by Miss Smedley and Mr. von Daur are on the way to realization there will be no lack of subscriptions for scholarships from individuals and from the various States of the Union.

The arguments developed by the report of the fourth commission in 1900 for the rejection of the petition by the municipal council may be united under two heads, as follows:

First. The American National Institute is a private enterprise offering no guarantees.

Second. The city of Paris in granting a site for this institute would be laying a heavy burden upon its finances, and the sacrifice to which the city would have to consent may be estimated at 500,000 francs (\$100,000).

It is easy to reply to these objections.

First, the greater part of the public institutions in the United States—universities, hospitals, libraries, etc.—are due to private initiative, and the State or the States manifest their sympathy and esteem for these institutions by according them scholarships and subsidies.

If the American National Institute had a purely commercial character, the Senate of the United States would surely not have incorporated and adopted, upon a second reading, the bill relative to its foundation, which bill necessitates permanent financial control.

As to the moral guaranties offered by the initiators of this superior school of arts and sciences they are attested by letters and communications from Hon. John Hay, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; from Hon. William P. Frye, President pro tempore of the Senate; from Mr. Jules Cambon, ambassador from France to Washington, and from Mr. Henri Vignaud, first secretary of the United States embassy at Paris.

It is proper to note that these documents and references were established in 1901–3, and consequently did not figure in the brief of the petition when it was reported to the council by our colleague Mr. Bussat.

Then, as to the fact of conceding under certain conditions a tract of land belonging to the city of Paris, this does not necessarily imply a heavy burden upon our finances.

If, after an understanding with the Government, an agreement be entered into through common interests, and we should authorize the American National Institute to erect its building on the border of the Champs de Mars, our sacrifice would not only be merely nominal, but we should by this same act increase the value of the land from which the conceded portion had been set apart.

It is a matter understood that those to whom the concession should be made would be obliged to submit the plans for the projected structure to the supervision of our architectural authorities.

There was a final argument presented in 1900, in order to avert the petition.

"A very heavy duty has to be paid upon works of art imported into the United States, therefore the means of frequenting the studios and of profiting by lessons from our masters in painting and sculpture should not be rendered easy to Americans."

I decidedly admit the policy of reprisals in fiscal and industrial matters, but it seems to me the city of Paris should enlarge its horizon and elevate its thoughts when it becomes a question of devotion to the superiority of French art, and of spreading abroad its luster.

In concluding these various considerations, which do not require any lengthy development, we have the honor to submit to you the following resolution:

The council, taking into consideration the renewed petition of the founders of the American National Institute, taking into consideration the report of Mr. Roger Lambelin in the name of the fourth commission, resolves:

ARTICLE 1. The administration is invited to enter into negotiations with the founders of the American National Institute for the purpose of conceding to them, under a renewable lease for a long term of years, at an annual rental of 1 franc, a plot of ground in the city of Paris, situated preferably within the zone to be set off on the border of the Champ de Mars, for the construction of the building for the said institute.

ART. 2. The plans of the proposed structure are to be subject to the approval of the architectural authorities of the city.

ART. 3. The contract to be drawn up, which will be submitted to the council, will expressly stipulate that, in case the Government of the United States does not, within the space of one year, make a donation to the National American Institute of the sum of \$250,000, then the concession granted by the city will be null and void.

These conclusions are adopted (1903, p. 1854).

[Copy.]

CONSEIL MUNICIPAL DE PARIS,  
CABINET DU PRÉSIDENT,  
Paris, le 19 novembre 1904.

MONSIEUR LE SECRÉTAIRE-GÉNÉRAL: Monsieur le président sera très heureux de vous recevoir ainsi que Mademoiselle Smedley lundi prochain (21 novembre écour.), à 2 heures de l'après midi, à son cabinet, à l'Hotel de Ville.

Veuillez agréer Monsieur le Secrétaire-Général l'assurance de mes sentiments très distingués.

Par le chef du cabinet du président du conseil municipal de Paris.

PIERRE LECE, *Secrétaire particulier.*

MONSIEUR HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secrétaire Général*  
*de l'Institut National Américain,*  
*24 Avenue de Saxe.*

[Translation.]

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF PARIS,  
 OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,  
*Paris, November 19, 1904.*

MR. SECRETARY-GENERAL: The president of the council will be very happy to receive you and Miss Smedley Monday next (November 21), at 2 o'clock p. m., at his office at the Hotel de Ville.

Accept, Mr. Secretary-General, the assurance of my greatest respect.

Per the chief of the office of the president of the municipal council of Paris.

PIERRE LECE, *Private Secretary.*

TO MR. HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General of the*  
*American National Institute,*  
*24 Avenue de Saxe, Paris.*

CABINET DU DIRECTEUR, HÔTEL DE VILLE,  
*Paris, le 5 janvier 1905.*

MONSIEUR: S'il vous est possible de passer à mon cabinet, après demain samedi de 3 à 5 heures, j'aurais à vous entretenir de l'affaire concernant l'Institut National Américain.

Veuillez agréer, je vous prie, l'assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée.

J. BOUVARD.

MONSIEUR HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secrétaire Général de l'Institut National Américain.*

[Translation.]

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR,  
 HOTEL DE VILLE (CITY HALL),  
*Paris, January 5, 1905.*

M. HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General of the American National Institute, 24 Avenue de Saxe.*

SIR: If it is convenient for you I would be very pleased to have you call at my office to-morrow (Saturday) from 3 to 5 p. m.

I would like to confer with you in matters concerning the American National Institute.

Please to accept the assurance of my highest respect and consideration.

T. BOUVARD,  
*Director of the Architectural Service of the City of Paris.*

In reference to the foregoing letter of Mr. Bouvard, director of the architectural service of the city of Paris, I called at his office at the Hotel de Ville, January 6, and was graciously received by him, and directed to see Mr. Menant, director of the municipal affairs, in order to secure the map of the grounds granted upon which to erect the edifice of the American National Institute on the Champs de Mars, one of the healthiest locations of Paris (valued at least at 500,000 francs), which had his full approval.

On date January 19, 1905, I received the plan as indicated by the inclosed map of said ground letter A, in blue, by authorization of the prefect of the Seine, M. de Selves, and sent by Mr. A. Menant, director of municipal affairs.

HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General of the American National Institute.*

CARDS OF CONGRATULATION IN RECOGNITION OF THE FAVORABLE REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF PARIS, WHICH SETTLED THE QUESTION OF GROUND UPON WHICH TO CONSTRUCT THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

DECEMBER 2, 1904.

- EMILE COMBES, *sénateur, président du Conseil, ministre de l'intérieur et des cultes.*  
 ABEL COMBARIEU, *secrétaire général civil de la présidence de la République.*  
 Gen. HORACE PORTER, *ambassador of the United States.*  
 J. CHAUMIE, *sénateur, ministre de l'instruction publique et des beaux-arts.*  
 LE CARDINAL RICHARD, *archevêque de Paris.*  
 LOUIS HERBETTE, *conseiller d'Etat. Souvenirs et souhaits bien sincères.*  
 J. BOUVARD, *directeur des services d'architecture, des promenades et plantations, de la voirie et du plan de Paris.*  
 JULES CLARETIE, *de l'Académie Française, administrateur général de la Comédie Française.*  
 J. DE SELVES, *préfet de la Seine.*  
 E. BAUMGART, *administrateur de la Manufacture nationale de Sèvres.*  
 GEORGE DESPLAS, *avocat à la Cour d'appel, président du Conseil municipal de Paris.*  
 J. POIRY, *vice président du Conseil municipal de Paris, conseiller général de la Seine.*  
 P. LAMPUE, *vice président du Conseil général de la Seine, conseiller municipal de Paris.*  
 AUGUSTE AUTRAND, *secrétaire général de la Seine.*  
 CHARLES RISLER, *maire du VII<sup>e</sup> arrondissement, membre des Conseils de surveillance, de l'Assistance publique et du Mont-du-Piété de Paris.*  
 PAUL ESCUDIER, *avocat à la Cour d'appel, ancien président du Conseil municipal de Paris, conseiller général de la Seine.*  
 LE COMTE DE SUAREZ D'AULAN, *ancien député, conseiller municipal de Paris, membre du Conseil général de la Seine.*  
 LOUIS DUVAL-ARNOULD, *avocat à la Cour d'appel, docteur en droit, conseiller municipal.*  
 MAURICE QUENTIN BAUCHERT, *conseiller municipal de la ville de Paris, membre du Conseil général de la Seine.*  
 PAUL CHAUTARD, *conseiller municipal de Paris, conseiller général de la Seine.*  
 ALPHONSE DEVILLE, *avocat à la Cour d'appel, membre du Conseil municipal de Paris.*  
 CÉSAR CAIRE, *docteur en droit, avocat à la Cour d'appel, conseiller municipal de Paris, conseiller général de la Seine.*  
 ADRIEN MITHOURD, *conseiller municipal de Paris.*  
 LOUIS DAUSSET.  
 CAROLUS DURAN, *de l'Institut, directeur de l'Académie de France à Rome.*  
 FERNAND CORMON, *de l'Institut.*  
 HENRI POINCARÉ, *membre de l'Institut et du Bureau des longitudes, professeur à la Faculté des Sciences.*  
 CONSTANT MOYAU, *membre de l'Institut, inspecteur général des bâtiments civils, professeur à l'Ecole nationale des beaux-arts.*  
 Mr. et Mme. ERNEST DUBOIN.  
 JULES LE FEBVRE, *membre de l'Institut.*  
 DENYS PUECH.  
 LUDOVIC HALÉVY, *de l'Académie Française.*  
 WILLIAM BOUGUEREAU, *membre de l'Institut.*  
 Mr. et Mme. WILLIAM BOUGUEREAU. *Avec nos remerciements et nos meilleurs vœux.*  
 ÉMILE VAUDREMER, *membre de l'Institut.*  
 JULES LEMAÎTRE, *del l'Académie Française.*  
 HIPPOLYTE LE FEBVRE, *statuaire.*  
 GABRIEL LIPPMANN, *membre de l'Institut et du Bureau des longitudes, professeur à la Faculté des sciences.*  
 E. NAVILLIER.  
 PAUL BOESWILLWALD, *architecte, inspecteur général des monuments historiques, professeur à l'Ecole des beaux-arts.*  
 LE DR. PAUL SEGOND, *professeur agrégé à la Faculté, chirurgien de la salpêtrière, médecin principal de la compagnie du chemin de fer d'Orléans.*  
 CHARLES RICHEL, *professeur à la Faculté de médecine de Paris.*  
 ALBERT BLONDEL (ERARD), *facteur de pianos et de harpes.*  
 ANTONY RATIER, *avocat près le tribunal de la Seine, sénateur.*  
 LÉON MELCHISSEDEC.

SECRETAIRE-GÉNÉRAL, DE L'INSTITUT-NATIONAL-AMÉRICAIN,  
24 Avenue de Saxe, Paris, le 15 Novembre, 1900.

TRANSLATED COPY OF THE ORIGINAL DECLARATION OF THE COMMITTEE OF PATRONAGE  
AND JURY OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE PRIX DE PARIS IN PARIS.

We, the undersigned, having a perfect knowledge of the aim and importance of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) founded by Miss Matilda Smedley, have consented to become members of the jury for the annual examinations for the Prix de Paris, in behalf of students of the United States of America already residing in Paris for study.

*Painting.*—WILLIAM BOUGUEREAU, JULES LEFEBVRE, JEAN PAUL LAURENS, LEON BONNAT, F. CORMON.

*Sculpture.*—BARTHOLDI, HIPPOLYTE LEFEBVRE, DENYS PUECH, ERNEST DUBOIS, E. BARRIAS.

*Architecture.*—E. VAUDREMER, C. MOYAUX, BOUVARD, PAUL BOESWILLWALD, T. L. PASCAL, LOUIS BERNIER.

*Music.*—MASSENET, J. PIERNÉ, THEODOR DUBOIS, A. GIRAUDET, T. MELCHISEDEC.

*Dramatic art.*—JULES CLARETIE, JULES LEMÂÎTRE, LUDOVIC HALÉVY, G. OHNET.

*Literature.*—SULLY-PRUDHOMME, T. M. DE HEREDIE, MAURICE ALBERT, GRÉARD.

*Science.*—EMILE PICARD, DR. PAUL SEGOND, H. POINCARÉ, G. LIPPMANN, DR. CHARLES RICHTER.

[Translation.]

MAYORALTY OF LUXEMBOURG,  
RUE BONAPARTE, 78,  
Paris, December 5, 1904.

Mr. H. VON DAUR,

*Secretary-General of the "National American Institute."*

DEAR SIR: The municipal council of Paris has finally found the time to confirm the former deliberation by which it accorded a plot of ground to the National American Institute for the purpose of constructing thereon its edifice for the arts and sciences.

The new deliberation, which is more definite, designates as its object the granting, by preference, a tract by the Champ de Mars; that is to say, in the western part of Paris, which is destined to become a center of elegance and fine buildings.

Your patience and that of Miss Smedley thus receive their recompense. As I have been the witness and confidant of all your efforts I can well testify that this success is due to your indefatigable perseverance. The "Prix de Paris" which has been so happily suggested by Miss Smedley is an arrangement as advantageous to the United States as it is honorable to France. I am certain that your work will meet with, among your compatriots, as well as here, the enthusiastic reception which it deserves.

Be kind enough to present to Miss Smedley, with my congratulations, the assurance of my profound respect, and receive for yourself, my dear sir, the assurance of my sympathy and devotion.

FELIX HERBET,  
*Mayor of the VI Arrondissement,  
Doctor of Laws, Advocate before the Court of Appeals,  
Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, Officer of Public Instruction.*

MAIRIE DU LUXEMBOURG,  
RUE BONAPARTE, 78.  
Paris, le 5 décembre 1904.

Monsieur H. VON DAUR,

*Secrétaire général de l'Institut national américain.*

CHER MONSIEUR: Le conseil municipal de Paris a enfin trouvé le temps de confirmer la délibération antérieure, par laquelle il accordait un terrain à l'Institut national américain pour y construire son palais des beaux-arts. La délibération nouvelle, plus précise, désigne pour cet objet, de préférence, un terrain du Champ de Mars, c'est-à-dire de cette partie ouest de Paris destinée à devenir un centre d'élégance et de beaux édifices.

Votre patience et celle de Miss Smedley reçoivent ainsi leur récompense. Comme j'ai été témoins et confidant de toutes vos démarches, je puis bien assurer que ce succès est dû à votre infatigable persévérance. Le "Prix de Paris," tel que l'a si heureusement conçu Miss Smedley, est une institution aussi avantageuse aux États-Unis qu'honorable pour la France. Je suis certain que votre œuvre rencontrera parmi vos compatriotes, comme ici, l'accueil enthousiaste qu'elle mérite.

Veuillez, je vous prie, faire agréer à Miss Smedley, avec toutes mes félicitations, l'hommage de mon profond respect, et recevoir pour vous, cher monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments bien sympathiques et dévoués.

FÉLIX HERBET,

*Maire du 11<sup>e</sup> arrondissement, Docteur en droit, avocat à la Cour d'appel,  
Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, officier de l'Instruction publique.*

[Translation.]

COUNCIL OF STATE,  
Paris, December 4, 1904.

Mr. HENRI VON DAUR,

*Secretary-General of the "American National Institute," Paris.*

SIR: It is ages since I had the pleasure of seeing you and meeting with Miss Smedley. But you can well imagine how age and poor health make many requirements, and I am not forgetful and not indifferent. The interchanges of opinions and sentiments upon the increasingly desirable relations between France and America have certainly met with no change. The journey and the mission which I have just had in America have only served to strengthen these opinions and sentiments.

I know that the useful project which you were engaged in is dearer to you than ever.

I beg you to present my respectful homage to Miss Smedley who is devoted to that work.

With expressions of the most cordial regard,

I am, yours,

L. HERBETTE, *Councilor of State.*

CONSEIL D'ÉTAT,  
Paris, le 4 décembre 1904.

Monsieur HENRI VON DAUR,

*Secrétaire général de l'Institut national américain, Paris.*

MONSIEUR: Il y a des siècles que je n'ai eu le plaisir de vous voir et de me trouver avec Miss Smedley. Mais vous devinez bien que si je suis dévoré par des besoins multiples, que l'âge et la santé ne facilitent pas toujours; je ne suis ni un oublieux, ni un indifférent. Les opinions et les sentiments que j'échangeais sur les relations croissantes désirables entre Français et Américains n'ont certes pas changés. Le voyage et la mission que je viens de faire en Amérique n'ont pu que les fortifier. Je sais que les projets si utiles dont il fallait suivre la préparation vous sont plus chers que jamais, ainsi qu'à Miss Smedley.

En retombant dans l'agitation de Paris, je tiens à vous prier de présenter mes respectueux hommages, avec tous mes vœux, que je vous demande d'accepter aussi avec l'expression cordiale de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

L. HERBETTE, *Conseiller d'Etat.*

[From the American Register, Paris, March 12, 1905.]

THE END OF THE GALERIE DES MACHINES—AN AMERICAN PALACE TO BE BUILT.

The Galerie des Machines, where the agricultural show is going to be opened in a few days, is irrevocably condemned. Its disappearance is now only a question of a few months. It has just been decided that no more concessions will be granted by the board of architects after June 25, when they will commence to tear down the building. The last occupant will be the Congress of Millers. Parisians will miss this souvenir of the exposition of 1889, which has seen so many fêtes and expositions,

but its demolition is necessary on account of the project which the city has in view in regard to the Champ de Mars. One of the corners of the Champ de Mars, now occupied by the galerie, will give way to the American Palace, similar to the French school at Rome. The young artists of the United States, sent by their Government, will study the masterpieces of art belonging to France in this American Palace.

# **DOCUMENT RELATING TO THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.**

[Senate Document No. 121, Fifty-eighth Congress, second session.]

JANUARY 25, 1904.

Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, January 23, 1904.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a copy of a letter from Miss Matilda Smedley, with inclosures, looking to the incorporation of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France.

A bill for this purpose (S. 7368) was passed by the Senate on February 28, 1903, and I am informed was reported favorably to the House of Representatives, where it failed of consideration.

In regard to this bill the Secretary of State, in a letter addressed to you, wrote:

"This Department has for a number of years taken much interest in the success of this movement, designed to establish in Paris a national institute for the study of art, which will at the same time afford a home for young American men and women students, surrounding them with the wholesome influences and moral protection so desirable in a great capital.

"By referring to Senate Document No. 398, Fifty-sixth Congress, first session, you will find the purposes of the institute fully explained and a gratifying showing of the progress made toward its accomplishment. It has received the cordial support of the municipal administration of Paris, which has generously offered a large and valuable site on renewable lease at a nominal ground rent of 1 franc per annum for the construction of the buildings of the institute. That document (No. 398) gives plots of the 14 sites from which to make selection.

"While occupying temporary quarters during the past three years, the institute has shown its capacity for good, both in its educational and in its moral sense. It has enlisted sympathy in France as well as in the United States, and now holds important donations of money and valuable works of art toward its establishment and maintenance. A good working nucleus for the necessary collections of paintings, statuary, and books already exists. Once set on a practical footing, with appropriate recognition of its character by the Governments of the United States and of France, the rapid development and enlargement of its sphere of utility and protection may be expected with confidence."

It is sincerely hoped that Congress, during its present session, will recognize this meritorious project by the passage of a bill of the character inclosed.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADEE,  
Acting Secretary.

HON. WILLIAM P. FRYE,  
President pro tempore United States Senate.

2 IOWA CIRCLE,  
Washington, D. C., January 21, 1904.

DEAR SIR: I inclose you several papers recently received, which set forth the progress of the work of the American National Institute at Paris. You will please notice that there is nothing further to be done in Paris, that the success or failure depends upon the Congress of the United States. The municipal council of the city of Paris is ready to make decision regarding the location of ground which was donated



several years ago, and Document 398 sets forth maps from which we are to make selection. You will notice in reading over the letter of Henry von Daur, the secretary of the work, they await our decision. A bill to incorporate this work passed the Senate and was reported to the House last session, and we have been assured of its full recognition at this present session.

It would seem from this question being agitated by so many influential people the time had come. Among those who are greatly interested is Consul-General Gowdy, at Paris, in his recent letter to Senator Frye.

The Department of State having given us support, we beg the continuance of the same in any direction which may hasten the decision of Congress.

Yours, very sincerely,

MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder-General.*

Hon. JOHN HAY,  
*Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.*

P. S.—May I add, if necessary the Federation of Arts and Science throughout the United States will send delegates to present the cause to the committee which may be appointed by Congress to receive them.

M. S.

[Frederic Crowninshield, president; Herbert Adams, vice-president; Francis C. Jones, treasurer Henry Rutgers Marshall, secretary, 3 West Twenty-ninth street, New York.]

THE FINE ARTS FEDERATION OF NEW YORK,  
*215 West Fifty-seventh Street.*

National Academy of Design.  
New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.  
American Water Color Society.  
Society of American Artists.  
The Architectural League of New York.  
American Fine Arts Society.  
Municipal Art Society of New York.  
Society of Beaux-Arts Architects.  
National Sculpture Society.  
The Mural Painters.  
New York Water Color Club.

PORTLAND, ME., April 20, 1904.

MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder and Director-General American National Institute.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have your folios. Why does this matter of passing bill to incorporate the institute go so hard with our Congressmen? I made a great effort to find you when last in New York, about a month ago.

With regards,

JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN.

**PETITION SIGNED BY ONE HUNDRED STUDENTS, FORWARDED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THEODORE ROOSEVELT.**

NOVEMBER 29, 1901.

Miss MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder and Director-General of the American National Institute,*  
*Paris, France:*

We, the undersigned American students studying in Paris, desire to express our full appreciation of your efforts and unselfish devotion for eight years to establish the American National Institute (Prix de Paris), and we sincerely hope that the students securing scholarships, after winning the prizes, as well as those benefited in a less substantial way, will feel that they owe something to the country that provided such opportunities for them.

We know that the French nation, through its highest and best representatives in the arts and letters, has given its warmest support to this work in the most unselfish

and generous manner. We hope that this generosity will soon be acknowledged by our Government through an action of Congress as a fitting answer.

The French Government has shown its friendliness to the United States in many ways, but it seems to us that no act of generosity will redound to so much good to our country as this last magnificent gift of a building site for the American National Institute.

A few years ago the French Government presented to our country the Statue of Liberty, and our Government lost no time in appropriating the money for a fitting pedestal. This time the French Government has given the pedestal, and it remains for our country to help the students and the statue, of which the building is but the beginning.

In consideration of our inexhaustible resources in industry and commerce, accompanied by our immense national wealth, there can be no doubt of the result of this petition to our President, Mr. Theodore Roosevelt.

We beg of you, Miss Smedley, to forward this expression to Washington, addressed to the President of the United States, and through him we hope the proper authorities will give their earliest attention to our humble petition.

Name of student.	Where studied.	United States address.
F. P. Schall	Chicago Art Institute	Chicago, Ill.
E. E. Hogeboom	Philadelphia Academy	Auburn, N. Y.
S. J. Whelan	Rhode Island School of Design	Providence, R. I.
J. J. Stevens	Pratt Institute	Cedar Falls, Iowa.
Geo. W. Schneider	Art Institute	Syene, Wis.
G. J. Perrett	do.	Chicago, Ill.
Antonio Sterba	Chicago Art Academy	Do.
G. Frank Muller	Munich Royal Academy	Cincinnati, Ohio.
E. S. Summers	Pratt Institute	Milwaukee, Wis.
Florence G. Bell		Chicago, Ill.
Ward Brown	Art Institute, Chicago	Denver, Colo.
George T. Porter	Normal Art	Boston, Mass.
C. W. Buckhan	New York	Burlington, Vt.
H. S. Rice	Boston	Boston, Mass.
F. A. Gendrot	Normal Art School	Do.
Hans Schuler	Maryland Institute	Baltimore, Md.
D. Garretson	Art League and National Academy, New York	Buffalo, N. Y.
A. E. Radford	University of Chicago	Chicago, Ill.
D. W. Humphrey	Art Institute, Chicago	Elkhorn, Wis.
Mr. Barthold	New York Academy of Design	Baltimore, Md.
E. T. Terster	Paris	Rochester, N. Y.
B. McArthur	Cincinnati Art Academy	Port Gibson, Miss.
Gahlea Brandt	Paris	Chicago.
H. A. Buelere	Art Institute, Chicago	Do.
A. I. Abernerthy	Cincinnati	Arkansas.
A. Proelochs	New York	Pittsburg, Pa.
J. F. Kaufman	Ecole Nationale des Beaux Arts, Paris	Richmond, Va.
Beatrice Baxter	Boston Art Museum	Denver, Colo.
Ellen D. Stuart	Paris and Dresden	Staunton, Va.
Mrs. Annetto A. Riddell	Art Institute, Chicago	Chicago, Ill.
Adalene B. Hunt	Syracuse University	Oneida, N. Y.
Corwin Knapp Linson	Paris Ecole des Beaux Arts	New York City.
Hy S. Watson	Philadelphia and Paris	The Players' Club, New York.
Annice Prickett Linson	Cooper Institute, New York; Paris	New York City.
Louise Eugenie Frulsett	do.	Rhelms, France.
William Theodore Peters	Brooklyn	Long Island, N. Y.
William H. Cotton	Bowles Art School, Boston	Newport, R. I.
Wm. W. Riddell	Chicago Art Institute	Chicago, Ill.
Alphens P. Cole	Paris	Jersey City.
Glenn Madison Brown	Art Students' League	Washington, D. C.
S. A. Sweet	Paris	New York City.
Edward F. Lukesh	Art Students' League, New York	Akron, Ohio.
H. M. Hartshorn	Paris	New York, N. Y.
F. Kaufman	Carnegie Institute	Pittsburg, Pa.
Ernest Lelthoff	do.	Do.
Scott C. Canbee	Providence, R. I.	Providence, R. I.
Albert Meyman	Holyoke	Holyoke, Mass.
J. Maxwell Miller	Baltimore	Baltimore, Md.
W. R. Johns	Pittsburg	Pittsburg, Pa.
Miriam H. Kevorkian	Philadelphia, Pa.	Philadelphia, Pa.
F. W. Coleman	Paris	New York City.
Charles Bittinger	Paris and New York	Washington, D. C.
Robert T. McKee	San Francisco	San Francisco, Cal.
R. T. Willis	Corcoran School of Art	Washington, D. C.
P. A. Sawyer	Art Academy	Chicago, Ill.
John H. Alger	Dwell School of Design	Boston, Mass.
Olivia Blanchard	New Orleans	Paris.
Theresa P. B. Coles	Philadelphia	Do.
Mrs. John Thornton Wood	Washington, D. C.	Washington, D. C.
H. P. Van Wgeenen	Rye, N. Y., U. S.	

Name of student.	Where studied.	United States address.
Alice S. McIlwaine.....	Paris.....	
Isabel G. MacIlwaine.....	do.....	
E. E. Williams.....	do.....	California.
O. L. Linde.....	do.....	Chicago, Ill.
Ephra. Vogelsang.....	Chicago, Ill.....	Do.
Alice M. Prince.....	Paris.....	Virginia.
Anita de Leftwich-Dodge.....	do.....	California.
Cora M. Lane.....	Los Angeles, Cal.....	Paris, Va.
M. de Leftwich-Dodge.....	Aue de Wagnan.....	Montesuma, Iowa.
Helen Braden.....	Los Angeles, Cal.....	
Mrs. A. T. Lane.....	Waterloo, Iowa.....	
Josephine C. Locke.....	Chicago, Ill.....	
Elizabeth Knadsen.....	do.....	
Howard C. Egger.....	Paris.....	Allegheny, Pa.
Abbot Lowood.....	do.....	Washington.
Olivia Blanchard.....	do.....	New Orleans, La.
E. J. Holtsbecher.....	do.....	Philadelphia.
Lucie Hatrach.....	do.....	Chicago.
Clarence Dickinson.....	do.....	Do.
Eleanor Weare Pearson.....	do.....	New York.
Florence A. Carpenter.....	do.....	Kansas City.
Lucy Darby.....	do.....	Louisville, Ky.
H. Wyer.....	do.....	New Orleans, La.
Helen Morris Richards.....	Germany and Paris.....	Newark, N. J.
Alice B. G. Morris.....	Munich.....	Do.
Francis R. Abbott.....	Paris and Philadelphia.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
Alice Rohde.....	Paris.....	Chicago, Ill.
Sarah P. Rohde.....	do.....	Do.

Closed May 9, 1901.

Received by Miss Smedley August, 1901.

Forwarded to President Roosevelt January, 1902.

AMBASSADE DES ÉTATS-UNIS,  
Paris, le 18 Décembre 1903.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: It is with much pleasure that I have read the new documents which you have sent me relative to the American National Institute Prix de Paris, and I congratulate you as well as the members of the board of trustees on having conducted this matter to the point where its success is assured. Those who, like myself, desire to see their compatriots profit more extensively by the artistic, literary, and scientific culture which can only be found in France, will be deeply grateful to you.

In the United States, as you know, there is one general voice of approval and encouragement for your enterprise.

The letter of Senator Frye, President of the Senate; that of Mr. Hay, the Secretary of State; that of Mr. Adee, the under Secretary of State, as well as the flattering note which President Roosevelt wrote in your golden book, all testify to this fact.

It is now the duty of our French friends to show that they take the same interest that we do in the success of this institution. Now is the time for this. Tell them before you leave, and say to Mr. Von Daur, the zealous and disinterested general secretary of the institute, that he must repeat it to them during your absence, which I hope will be a short one. My best wishes accompany you.

I beg you to believe, dear Miss Smedley, in the sincerity of your devoted servant,

HENRY VIGNAUD,  
First Secretary of the United States Embassy at Paris.

Mlle. MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
Fondatrice et Directrice de l'American National Institute, Paris.

A PARTIAL LIST OF NAMES OF PERSONS SUPPORTING THE INCORPORATION OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

Theodore Roosevelt.  
 Right Rev. Bishop Potter.  
 Horace Porter, ambassador to France.  
 John K. Gowdy, United States consul at Paris.  
 Levi P. Morton.  
 Richard Watson Gilder.  
 Colin Armstrong.  
 Cardinal Gibbons.  
 Archbishop Ireland.  
 Charles P. Gardner, president New England Conservatory.  
 Alvey A. Adee.  
 John Hay.  
 Wm. H. Taft.  
 Mrs. Elizabeth Cary Agassiz, president Radcliffe College.  
 George W. Chadwick, director New England Conservatory.  
 James L. Whitney, librarian Boston Public Library.  
 Rev. Dr. Burrell.  
 Edward T. Robinson, director Museum Fine Arts, Boston.  
 Rev. Dr. Van Dyck.  
 Mme. Etta Edwards, Boston.  
 Carl Smith.  
 A. M. Hume, Boston.  
 J. C. Goodrich.  
 Ex-Governor Larrabee.  
 M. Knoedler.  
 Mrs. A. M. Coleman.  
 Frederick G. Smedley.  
 Mrs. Jackson.  
 Charles N. Wood, consul-general, Rome.  
 Thomas M. A. Burke, bishop of Albany.  
 W. L. Whitney.  
 Flora Adams Darling.  
 Thomas Allen, A. N. A., S. A. A., chairman school council, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.  
 Mr. W. H. Mooney.  
 Alexander Steinart, Boston.  
 Jules Cambon, ex-ambassador to the United States.  
 Mr. J. J. Jusserand, ambassador of France, Washington, D. C.  
 F. Delmas, de L'Opéra.  
 John S. Wise.  
 P. R. Uhler, Peabody Institute.  
 Alexander C. Morgan.  
 E. Vaudremer.  
 T. L. Pascal.  
 Jules Lemaitre.  
 Rev. Dr. Faunce.  
 Dr. Baker, Georgetown University.  
 L. H. Kauffmann.  
 Louis C. Tiffany.  
 Senator Hawley.  
 Richard Norton, archæologist, Rome.  
 Cardinal Rampolla.  
 Mrs. W. Taylor.  
 Mrs. Angie King Hicks.  
 Louis Coepany, de L'Opéra.  
 Theodore Stanton.

Maurice Grau.  
 C. M. Rubens.  
 Edward Laugerbach.  
 Paul Boeusuelliwald.  
 Jean Paul Laurens.  
 Sully Prudhomme.  
 Mrs. A. M. Coleman.  
 A. Mattany.  
 W. D. Smedley.  
 Mrs. M. C. La Duc.  
 Mrs. W. A. Henderson.  
 Madame La Countess von Daur.  
 J. W. Smedley.  
 Mary Clementine Smedley.  
 Gustave Gottheil, rabbi of Temple Emmanuel.  
 M. A. Corrigan, archbishop of New York.  
 Archbishop Farley.  
 Capt. H. Spliedt.  
 Ada May Benzing.  
 Mr. Metz.  
 C. H. Kintermann.  
 Senator Cotzmoesessan.  
 M. F. Lohrugen.  
 J. H. F. Bouffard, D. D.  
 Rev. D. Z. Waterbury.  
 Mr. Warren H. Thompson.  
 Edgar Goodspeed.  
 Mr. Sol B. Solomon.  
 Ethel Holbrook Perkins.  
 Lola B. Brown.  
 Geo. L. Brown.  
 J. C. Knecht.  
 Zora Weaver.  
 Robert Newton Shaw.  
 Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Henckel.  
 Mrs. Wm. Harcourt.  
 Mr. Hughson Hawley.  
 Mr. Hakey.  
 Mrs. Harriman.  
 Irving Hazen.  
 Mrs. Laurence Hutton.  
 Mr. Hayes.  
 Claude Raguet Hirst.  
 Mrs. Otto Heirety.  
 Miss Helen Howe.  
 Mrs. Learitt Hawe.  
 M. et Madame Adolf Haffner.  
 D. S. Hammond.  
 Stella Heilburn.  
 Count Henri.  
 Elizabeth Hartmann.  
 Jennie Hunter.  
 Frances Gilman Howard.  
 Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Hinkel.  
 Alice Fisher Harcourt.  
 Mrs. L. W. Holcomb.  
 John W. Harrington.  
 H. L. Hogwet.  
 J. Scott Hartley.  
 Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Henderson.  
 Anna Bulkeley Hills.  
 William A. Houghton.  
 Emiline M. Holbrook.  
 Mr. J. M. Hoy.

James G. Howard.  
 Anne E. Houston.  
 Mrs. Havens and daughters.  
 Henry Herncourt.  
 H. W. Hardon.  
 Emile A. Huber.  
 Estelle Howe.  
 Mrs. Emeline Kinney.  
 Misses Kendall.  
 Mrs. Clarence V. Kip.  
 Sara A. Lande.  
 Alex. Lambert, New York Conservatory of Music.  
 Mrs. Seth Low.  
 Ida H. Layard.  
 Louise B. Lindeke.  
 E. W. Leyster.  
 Lydia G. Laurence.  
 Mr. Lyamon.  
 Herbert Levy, Metropolitan School of Fine Arts.  
 Mrs. La Duc.  
 Mrs. F. Kaiser.  
 Athalie Clarie Kayne.  
 Roland Knoedler.  
 Paul Kauffmann.  
 Jessie L. Knight.  
 G. A. Kendrick, principal of Vassar College.  
 Edith C. Korn.  
 John P. Korn.  
 Julia N. Kent.  
 Laura Celestine Kinley.  
 Mary L. Kelley.  
 Ida Lurig Klann.  
 J. Henry McKinley.

Mary Kollock.  
 A. Eugène Kirby.  
 Louise Hogeman.  
 Maud Ingram.  
 E. W. Irvin.  
 Sir Henry Irving.  
 Van Ingen, Vassar College.  
 H. J. de Psory Ingram.  
 F. von Inten.  
 Antranig T. Ishkhatian.  
 Mrs. Conrad Jameson.  
 Mr. Robert Jameson.  
 Caroline Jenkins.  
 Eastman Johnson.  
 Emma C. K. Jack.  
 Theodore L. Jabine.  
 F. H. Jacobs.  
 Joseph Jefferson, actor.  
 Elizabeth Johnson, M. D.  
 H. M. Jackson.  
 Theodor L. Jabine.  
 Mrs. Richard Lacy.  
 Miss Blanche Larrible.  
 Mrs. Dr. J. W. Lyon.  
 F. J. Lomis.  
 Warren F. Leeland.  
 Chas. F. McKim, architect.  
 Mrs. D. J. Mercure.  
 Mr. Edward Mitchell.  
 Mrs. Woolsey Mitchell.  
 Wm. Mitchell.  
 S. S. Murray.  
 J. Francis Murphy.  
 Katherine Smith Middletown.  
 Geo. W. Moynard.

40 EAST SIXTY-EIGHTH STREET, NEW YORK, April 21, 1904.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,

*Founder and Director-General American National Institute.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I inclose you a rough copy of a letter I have mailed to the following Congressmen: Mr. Cockran, Mr. Sulzer, Mr. Fitzgerald, and Mr. Sullivan.

Truly, yours,

JOHN D. CRIMMINS.

[Copy.]

DEAR CONGRESSMAN —: I have an intimate acquaintance with Senate bill No. 4594, "to incorporate the American National Institute at Paris, France."

It is a most worthy cause, and will be creditable to our country when the establishment is completed.

A month ago in Paris I visited American friends, and was advised that a number of American ladies look after American students, particularly the girls, and that one good woman, from her own purse, recently paid the expenses of six girls home.

Present conditions in Paris in relation to American students, particularly girls, are most regrettable, and the dangers they are exposed to are a menace to their moral welfare. But still they come—not so much from the cities, like New York, but from the country districts.

They have probably manifested some signs of talent, measured by the standard of the people among whom they live, and with the consent of fond and proud parents they go to Paris to study the arts, as it were, but a small percentage never get beyond a picture gallery. These young people are unacquainted with the language or habits of Paris.

By the enactment of this bill it is the purpose of the association, in the establishment of the institute, to protect and advise the aspiring young man and woman who go to Paris to study in the various arts. The purposes have many merits besides these, which I should not care to disclose in a letter. I hope you will favor this bill, which I commend to you most sincerely, and aid its passage by your vote.

Faithfully, yours,

JOHN D. CRIMMINS, *New York.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: You are to be congratulated. I think it is wonderful what you have accomplished, and if the nation does build that institution, posterity—to the judgment day—will call you blessed.

E. SEILLIERE.

MARCH 23, 1905.

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PARIS, *March 30, 1905.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am in receipt of your note and documents. In reply beg to say that you are at liberty to use my name as one of the incorporators of the American National Institute in Paris.

LEVI P. MORTON.

CONSULATE-GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
36 Avenue de l'Opera, Paris, December 2, 1904.

Miss MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
24 Avenue de Saxe, Paris.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am very glad to learn that you have so much encouragement with reference to the establishment of an American National Institute in the city of Paris.

It is unnecessary for me to repeat the very many reasons why an institution of this kind should be erected in Paris and managed and controlled by our Government authority. It is certainly encouraging to realize that your long service in this regard is now about to be rewarded by the American Government in authorizing a National Educational Institute in Paris.

There are many reasons why such an institution would also be of lasting benefit to the very many American students who come to Europe, and especially to Paris, to obtain advanced ideas in higher education. There is no doubt but what the desire to come abroad is on the increase with young American students, and for this reason a national institute, properly managed and controlled by Government authority, will be a guarantee for honest, intelligent, and industrious students for proper protection while abroad.

With sincere congratulations and hoping for your success in this good work,

I am, very respectfully, yours,

JOHN K. GOWDY,  
American Consul-General.

[From the New York Herald, Paris, Sunday, March 12, 1905.]

AN AMERICAN GIRL RESCUED FROM A HOPELESS STATE BY THE LETTER COLUMN—MR. J. K. GOWDY'S TRIBUTE—RESULT OF GENEROSITY OF MRS. HOFF, DOCTOR GROS, MR. F. K. CLARKE, AND OTHERS.

*To the Editor of the Herald:*

I am glad to say that the "American girl," who was mentioned in your columns some weeks ago as being very ill and unable to care for herself, either physically or financially, is now on her way to America in charge of a competent nurse and will be properly cared for until she reaches her home in Illinois.

Much credit is due to the Herald for the publicity given to this sad case, requesting subscriptions to aid the young lady. Mrs. Hoff, Doctor Gros, Mr. F. K. Clarke, and others liberally responded to the call. Thanks to these kind-hearted Americans, all expenses have been paid, and not a penny wasted.

I gladly take this opportunity to testify to the generous support given by the Herald in all cases of distress in Paris. It is timely help, for scarcely a day passes without appeals being made to the consulate by American citizens in distress. Unfortunately there is no fund placed by the Government in a consul's hands for the assistance of ordinary citizens in distress.

JOHN K. GOWDY,  
American Consul.

PARIS, March 11, 1905.

AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS,  
18 AVENUE KLEBER,  
Paris, September 6, 1901.

His Excellency ROBERT McCORMICK,  
*United States Ambassador, Vienna.*

MY DEAR AMBASSADOR: Permit me to introduce to you the bearer of these lines, Mr. von Daur, who is secretary-general of the American National Institute of this city, an institution in which we all take interest and of which he is one of the founders.

I commend him to your official courtesy and remain,  
Most respectfully, yours,

HENRY VIGNAUD,  
*First Secretary of the United States Embassy, Paris.*

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
*Vienna, Austria, am 4. October 1901.*

EUER HOCHWOHLGEBOREN: Hiermit beehre ich mich euer Hochwohlgeboren in dem Ueberbringer dieses Schreibens Herrn Henri von Daur, General-Sekretär des "Amerikanischen National Institutes" in Paris bestens vorzustellen.

Das "Amerikanische National Institut" in Paris wird für die Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika dieselbe Rolle erfüllen, wie der "Prix de Rom" für die in Rom weilenden Franzosen, d. h. den Studenten welche nach Ablegung eines rigorösen Exams ein Stipendium für 3 Jahre erhalten, ist es unter gewissen Bedingungen auch freigestellt einen Theil ihrer Zeit in Europa zuzubringen und andere Kunst Institute zu besuchen.

Herr von Daur wird euer Hochwohlgeboren bitten die Güte zu haben solchen Studenten welche eventuell nach Wien kommen werden um während einer bestimmten Zeit etwa eines Jahres zur Vervollständigung ihrer Studien daselbst zu verweilen ihre geneigte Protection und Leitung angedeihen lassen zu wollen.

Die Gesandtschaft beehrt sich jedes gutige Entgegenkommen welches euer Hochwohlgeboren den Herrn von Daur in dieser Angelegenheit erweisen mögen im voraus ihren verbindlichsten Dank auszusprechen.

Genehmigen euer Hochwohlgeboren den Ausdruck meiner vorzüglichsten Hochachtung.

Gezeichnet ROBERT S. McCORMICK,  
*Gesandter der Vereinigten Staaten von America in Wien.*

Seiner Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Professor Ritter CARL VON ZUMBUSCH,  
*Rector der K. K. Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Wien.*

LETTERS OF INTRODUCTION OF HIS EXCELLENCY ROBERT M'CORMICK, UNITED STATES  
AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA, VIENNA.

Sr. Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Professor Ritter Carl von Zumbusch befor Rector der K. K. Akademie der bildenden Künste.

Sr. Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Professor Hellmer, derzeit Rector der K. K. Akademie der bildenden Künste.

Sr. Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Ritter von Perger, Director des Conservatoriums für Music und darstellende Kunst der Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde in Wien.

Sr. Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Jacob Schipper, K. K. Hofrath und Rector der K. K. Universität in Wien.

Sr. Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Sections Chef von Stadler, K. K. Ministerium für Cultus und Unterricht.

Sr. Hochwohlgeboren Herrn von Wiener, K. K. Hofrath, Referent des Sections Chefs von Stadler Conservatorium.

Sr. Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Joseph Carabacek, K. K. Hofrath und Director der K. K. Hof-Bibliothek.



Wien, 8. Dezember 1901.

Hochwerehrter H<sup>ER</sup> GENERAL SEKRETÄR:

Herrn Sections Chef von Stadler habe ich von ihrer Mission benachrichtigt, er wird sich freuen wenn sie ihm Morgen zwischen 10 und 12 Uhr mit einem Besuche beehren (Ministerium für Kultus und Unterricht, 1 Minoritenplatz 7).

In der Akademie der bildenden Künste, 1 Schillerplatz 3, habe ich sie ebenfalls, angekündigt. Da der jetzige Rector Professor Hellmer nich ständig im Hause ist bitte ich sich an den Sekretär der Akademie Regierungsrath Lott zu wenden.

Mit collegialem Grusse, ganz ergebenst,

C. v. ZUMBUSCH.

Sr. HOCHWOHLGEBOREN HERRN HENRI VON DAUR,

*General-Sekretär des Amerikanischen Institutes in Paris.*

SEKRETARIAT DER KAISERLICH KÖNIGLICHEN AKADEMIE DER BILDENDEN KÜNSTE,

Wien, 14. October 1901.

Sehr Geehrter HERR: Ich erlaube mir Ihnen höflichst mitzutheilen, dass der derderzeitige Rector Akademie, Herr Professor Hellmer, sehr erfreut sein würde, wenn sie ihm am Mittwoch den 16 d. M. zwischen 10 and 12 Uhr in seinem Akademie-Atelier (Schillerplatz 3) die Ehre ihres Besuches erweisen wollten.

Ihr Hochachtungsvoll Ergebener,

LOTT, K. K. Regierungsrath.

Sr. HOCHWOHLGEBOREN HERRN HENRI VON DAUR,

*General Sekretär des Amerikanischen National Institutes in Paris*

## PROPOSED AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS.

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[S. Doc. No. 398, Fifty-sixth Congress, first session.]

### *The Senate and House of Representatives:*

I transmit herewith a report from the Secretary of State in regard to the proposed American National Institute at Paris, to be erected on ground to be donated by the Government of France, and to be free from taxation.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 23, 1900.

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### To the PRESIDENT:

I transmit herewith, with a view to its submission to Congress, should you deem that course proper, copy of a letter of March 28, 1900, with its several accompaniments, from Miss Matilda Smedley, founder and director-general, in regard to the proposed American National Institute at Paris. On this point Miss Smedley says:

"I need only remark that the French Government not only has granted a valuable site on which to erect suitable buildings in the city of Paris for the purpose indicated, but that it has made it possible that such a structure, as you have so worthily stated, 'to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American National Institute for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study,' shall remain forever free from taxation."

It will be found by further reference to Miss Smedley's letter that an appropriation of \$250,000 is desired with which to erect a suitable building on the site to be selected.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN HAY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, May 22, 1900.

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WASHINGTON, March 28, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to lay before you, knowing your interest in the subject, a letter I have addressed to the President in regard to the American National Institute at Paris.

I should personally appreciate whatever you may be able to do toward inducing the President to submit my letter to Congress in accordance with my suggestion, with such recommendation as he may feel the subject merits.

Thanking you very kindly for your interest and attention in the matter, I am,  
Very truly, yours,

MATILDA SMEDLEY.

HON. JOHN HAY,  
Secretary of State.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., March 28, 1900.

### To the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:

It will be recalled that in your message to Congress of December 5, 1899, you made use of the following language:

"The United States Government building is approaching completion, and no effort will be spared to make it worthy, in beauty of architectural plan and in completeness of display, to represent our nation. It has been suggested that a permanent building of similar or appropriate design be erected on a convenient site, already given by

the municipality, near the exposition grounds, to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American National Institute, for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study."

As you know, for years I have been deeply interested in a scheme known as the American National Institute (Prix de Paris). The aim of this institute is to procure for the young men and women of the United States advantage of finishing in France their education in literature and the sciences, as well as in the different branches of the arts; for example, painting, engraving, sculpture, architecture, music, and the drama. Scholarships (Prix de Paris) will also be created similar to the scholarships (Prix de Rome) which are awarded to French artists.

As showing more in detail the facts in regard to this matter, which can not fail, when fully understood by the people of the United States, to elicit their warm appreciation and deserve their approbation, I quote as a part of this communication a report by the municipal councilor, showing conclusively that the Government of France has granted and is ready to negotiate with the American National Institute, or its duly authorized representatives, for a plot of ground in the city of Paris for the purpose of establishing the equivalent for the youth of America of the schools furnished by France at Athens and Rome. A literal translation of the report reads as follows:

*Municipal Council of Paris, 1899.*

REPORT.

In the name of the fourth commission, with a view of granting to the American National Institute the concession of a plat of ground in the city of Paris for the purpose of establishing the equivalent, for the youth of America, of the schools furnished by France at Rome and Athens, presented by M. Emile Clairin, municipal councilor.

GENTLEMEN: The American National Institute, authorized by the State of New York; on the 9th day of December, 1895, has addressed to you a petition asking for the concession of a plat of ground in the city of Paris upon which to construct a palace corresponding to our academy at Rome and our school at Athens.

The aim of this institute is to procure for the young men and women of the United States the advantage of finishing in France their education—literary, scientific, or in the different branches of the arts: Painting, engraving, sculpture, architecture, music, dramatic art, etc. Scholarships (Prix de Paris) will also be created similar to the scholarships (Prix de Rome) which are awarded to our artists.

The maintenance of the institute will be assured by the maintenance of the scholarships created, either by private persons or by the forty-five States of the Union. The construction of the palace would be defrayed by an official grant of 1,250,000 francs, and, we must add, it would already have been begun but for a legal hindrance preventing the United States Government from acquiring property, directly or indirectly, in a foreign country.

This project was from the very first much approved of in America, and we have before us a list of about 800 adherents, and we find the institute has already received important endowments, such as that of Mrs. Walden-Pell, honorable president of the institute, amounting to 500,000 francs, for the creation of a scholarship for music to bear her name; that of Mrs. James Jackson, in memory of her husband, of the like sum, with the further promise of contributing toward the establishment of the institute library; that of Mrs. Frank Leslie, of New York, amounting to 25,000 francs, etc. You will find elsewhere, attached to this report, the names of the members of the first committee, the composition of which you will appreciate at its full value.

We regret we are unable to place before you the long list, read by us, of the marks of sympathy and adhesion that the American National Institute has obtained in France among artists and literary and scientific men.

We are not surprised at this, for this enterprise, of such great utility to the youth of America, is invested with a grandeur which will not escape you. Your commission has considered that it can not remain indifferent to this, the more that you, like ourselves, are greatly touched by this fresh homage paid to the city of Paris, considered in the light of the luminous center of civilization.

Unfortunately, it is impossible for us, on many accounts, to make the institute the free gift of a municipal plat of ground for the erection of its palace. But it has appeared to your fourth commission that all difficulties could be avoided by conceding to the institute, under certain conditions to be discussed, a piece of ground for a long period—fifty years, for instance—and renewable, for the nominal rent of 1 franc yearly. We can not further discuss the contract to intervene. It suffices to-day to make its outlines. You will have to examine it in detail in your next sitting, if, as

we hope, you return the petition in question with a favorable notice to the prefect of the Seine, that he may enter into negotiation with the founders of the American National Institute.

We can not but suppose ourselves to be the interpreters of the entire council, as we are already of your commission of education and the fine arts, in respectfully congratulating Miss Matilda Smedley, founder of the institute, upon her generous and noble initiative.

If it is of interest to the youth of America, if the city of Paris should rejoice at it, the whole of France will applaud, happy in the glory of her artists and the genius of her scholars, proud of the light they shed on the world.

The reporter.

EMILE CLAIRIN.

#### PROJECT OF DELIBERATION.

The council, after due examination of the petition No. 3170, of the American National Institute; after due examination of the report of Mr. E. Clairin, in the name of the fourth commission, decide:

ARTICLE 1. That the administration be invited to open negotiations with the founders of the American National Institute, with the view of conceding to them, by a long lease, renewable, at an annual rent of 1 franc, a plat of ground belonging to the city of Paris, for the construction of the palace of said institute.

ARTICLE 2. That the intervening contract be submitted to the municipal council during its next sitting.

(The fourth commission—education, fine arts—is composed of Messrs. Clairin, president; Hattat, vice-president; Archain, secretary; Bellan, Blondel, Paul Brousse, Chausse, Gay, John Labusquierre, Lampue, Marsoulan, Louis Mill, Alfred Moreau, Pariasse, Pierpraud, Vorbe.)

[Translation.]

VILLE DE PARIS CONSEIL MUNICIPAL,  
*Paris, December 28, 1899.*

The founder, MATILDA SMEDLEY, and  
Secretary-General Mr. HENRI VON DAUR.

MADAM AND SIR: I am happy to inform you that the municipal council has voted the resolution adopted by the fourth commission; and which I had the honor of forwarding you, with regard to the American National Institute.

Pray accept the assurance of my most distinguished and devoted sentiments.

CLAIRIN.

PREFECTURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE SEINE,  
*Paris, February 6, 1900.*

M. HENRY VON DAUR,  
*Avenue d'Éna 50.*

SIR: In accordance with your request, I have the honor of forwarding you the following list of plats of ground belonging to the city of Paris, the dimensions and sites of which appear to be convenient for the eventual erection of the salons of the American National Institute:

1°. Avenue de Suffren, corner of Quai d'Orsay; surface, 1,319.21 meters. This ground is actually occupied by the Society of the Maréorama in virtue of a lease.

2°. Avenue de Suffren; surface, 1,357.60 meters. This ground is occupied by the Palace of Optics in virtue of a lease expiring July 1, 1901.

3°. Site of the old Grenelle slaughterhouses, Avenue de Breteuil; surface, 32,000 meters. This ground is let to the Society of French Artists, and will be disposable on December 31, 1900.

4°. Rue Robert Estienne; surface, 2,000 meters. This ground is actually occupied by a deposit of materials which could be transported elsewhere.

5°. The old Villeluif slaughterhouses; surface, 26,000 meters. These slaughterhouses are on the point of being disaffected.

6°. Boulevard Raspail et Rue Schoelcher; surface, 2,774 meters.

7°. Boulevards Raspail, Edgar Quinet, and Rue E. Richard; surface, 3,706 meters.

8°. Rues Victor Considerant, Schoelcher, and Boulevard Raspail; surface, 3,647 meters.

9°. Rues Guy de Maupassant et Mignard, 1,440 meters.

10°. Rues Edmond About et Emile Augier; surface, 2,925 meters.

11°. Boulevard Jules Sandeau, Rues Eug. Labiche et de Franqueville; surface, 5,146 meters.

12°. Boulevards Lannes et Flandrin et Rue Dufrenoy; surface, 4,900 meters.

13°. Boulevards de Pasteur et de Vaugisard; surface, 3,093 meters.

14°. Boulevard Pasteur et Rue des Fourneaux; surface, 2,340 meters.

You will find attached the plans of these different plats of ground. I must ask you, after having examined them, kindly to return them to me, and let to me know which is the one you choose.

As I have already had the honor of explaining to you, for a certain number of these plats of land certain difficulties will arise for the affectation of the price of same to operations engaged, but it will be for the municipal council to decide what can be done.

Your proposition will then be submitted to the municipal council with notification from the administration.

Receive, sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

The prefect of the Seine (by authority).

The director of the municipal business, A. Menant.

#### THE WALDEN-PELL SCHOLARSHIP.

My long residence of thirty years in France, my adopted country, has given me the opportunity of knowing the necessity there exists for the American National Institute for the young students of my native country; and in honor of this work by Miss Matilda Smedley I give a \$10,000 scholarship for music, to be controlled by her and to be entitled the "Walden-Pell" scholarship, donated on my eighty-eighth birthday, October 2, 1898.

December 15, 1898.

Mrs. WALDEN-PELL, *Paris, France.*

#### JACKSON SCHOLARSHIP.

Having resided many years in France, and in memory of my late husband, Mr. James Jackson, I donate to the American National Institute, Prix de Paris (which is to be built in Paris, France), a scholarship of \$10,000; also objets d'art, various gifts of paintings, engravings, photographs, and a valuable collection of books to found the library.

I will also furnish three rooms.

December 9, 1898.

MARY D. JACKSON (Mrs. James Jackson),  
15 Avenue d'Antin, *Paris, France.*

*Scholarship fund for the American National Institute, December 1, 1898.*

Baroness von Zedwitz .....	music...	\$500
Mrs. Frank Leslie .....	do.....	5,000

Je recommande chaudement les efforts de Mademoiselle Smedley pour l'établissement de cette institution.

J. B. EUSTIS,  
*Ambassadeur des États-Unis à Paris, France.*

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE, PRÉFECTURE DE POLICE,  
*Paris, December 16, 1896.*

You were kind enough to recommend to me in your dispatch letter of the 12th instant, in very special terms, Miss Smedley, who desires to secure recognition as an

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

establishment of public utility for the association entitled "The American National Institute," now in the course of formation, in which your embassy is interested, the object of which is to create a center of encouragement for Americans who come to France to study the arts and literature. It gives me great pleasure to say that I have received Miss Smedley, together with Mrs. Gibbs, the lady who accompanied her. The papers of the association under notice were sent by me on the 12th instant to the prefect of the Seine, transmitting to him also the very favorable information which I have taken pains to collect on the subject of the proposed enterprise. I have, in the meantime, given these ladies the necessary information of the course to follow in order to secure at the fitting moment for this institution the recognition of the French Government as a work of public utility. I will add, Monsieur Ambassador, that the entire support of my administration has been made for the work undertaken by Miss Smedley, and I have every reason to believe that this work, patronized by the very best American society and by a large number of the notabilities in the arts and literature in America, as well as by a large part of the notabilities in the arts and literatures of my own country, will receive in France the best acceptance. Be pleased to accept, Monsieur Ambassador, the assurance of my very high consideration.

The prefect of police.

LEPINE.

To the AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

(On record at the American embassy in Paris.)

PARIS, le 2 décembre 1898.

MADAME: Vous avez bien voulu m'écrire, ainsi que Monsieur von Daur, pour me demander d'être membre honoraire du Conseil de l'American National Institute. Je ne puis qu'accepter l'offre honorable que vous m'adressez, et vous remercier, car l'œuvre dont vous poursuivez la réalisation est digne de toutes les sympathies.

Agréez, je vous prie, Madame, l'expression de ma considération la plus distinguée.

JULES CAMBON.

PARIS, 7 février 1899.

MON CHER PRÉFET: L'American National Institute se met en instance auprès de vous pour obtenir la concession d'un terrain de la ville de Paris, afin d'y construire un édifice destiné à remplir pour les Américains le rôle que remplit pour nous-mêmes notre Ecole de Rome.

Cette œuvre, née de l'initiative individuelle, comme toutes œuvres artistiques en Amérique, a déjà recueilli des ressources qui en assurent le succès. Elle est destinée à répandre l'influence, de la ville de Paris et à resserrer les liens de sympathie qui nous unissent à l'Amérique. Je serais heureux qu'il vous fût possible de donner une suite favorable à la demande de Mademoiselle Smedley, fondatrice de l'American National Institute.

Je profite de cette occasion, mon cher Préfet, pour vous renouveler l'expression de ma haute considération et de mes sentiments dévoués.

JULES CAMBON,

Ambassadeur de France à Washington.

AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS, 18 AVENUE KLÉBER,

Paris, le 20 janvier 1899.

MONSIEUR LE PRÉFET: Mon prédécesseur, Mr. Eustis, avait pris sous son patronage l'American National Institute que plusieurs de mes nationaux, et un certain nombre des vôtres, veulent fonder à Paris pour faciliter l'étude des arts aux jeunes américains des deux sexes, qui, chaque année, viennent chercher en France un enseignement supérieur. Cet institut étant une œuvre d'initiative particulière, je n'ai pas à intervenir dans les démarches qui peuvent assurer sa fondation. Je vous demande, cependant, la permission de vous présenter Mademoiselle Smedley qui s'est consacrée à cette œuvre et qui désire vous entretenir à ce sujet.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Préfet, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

HORACE PORTER.

Monsieur de SELVES,

Préfet de la Seine, Paris.

NEW YORK, *January 31, 1896.*

The undersigned trustees of the American National Institute, in addition to the formal vote authorizing Miss Smedley to continue the collection of subscriptions and contributions in aid of the institute, hereby offer the testimony of their personal approval and sympathy.

We have given earnest attention to the purposes and plans set forth by Miss Smedley and to the measures by which she has secured so admirable a beginning. She has labored zealously in this country to obtain a permanent charter and adequate support for this institute.

We heartily commend her to all who appreciate the value of this line of practical education, which in its scope and effect will be a great public benefit.

It is far from our wish to seem to encourage young girls to go abroad for study, and it is not the design of this institute to offer such inducements, but it will remain almost a necessity, certainly a persistent fact, that students who are obliged to make their talents for artistic work a means of support will be forced by what is almost a public demand to perfect their studies by a finishing course in Paris.

To those who know the condition of student life in that city an institute like this will warmly commend itself.

Miss Smedley has thorough knowledge of all the conditions to be provided for and has the cordial support of many of the most worthy and distinguished citizens of France in this good work. She should be sustained here.

Chauncey M. Depew; Thomas Hunter, president Normal College; Mary R. Callender, Caroline de Forest, Candace Wheeler, Frances A. Levy, Henri von Daur, M. G. Van Rensselaer, John D. Crimmins, Edward Walpole Warren, D. D.; Hon. Henry G. Marquand, president Metropolitan Art Museum; Sarah E. Buckbee, E. C. Edmunds, Judge John F. Dillon, LL. D.; Charles F. Hoffmann, D. D.; Gen. Joshua L. Chamberlain, ex-governor of Maine.

I need only remark that the French Government has not only granted a valuable site on which to erect a suitable building in the city of Paris for the purpose indicated, but that it has made it possible that such a structure, as you have so worthily stated, "to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American National Institute, for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study," shall remain forever free from taxation.

I may further observe that members of the Academy and Institute of France have signified their intention to support the American National Institute.

In view of all these facts and especially of the generosity and good will shown by the Government of France and its citizens, I trust I am not asking too much that this matter may now be brought to the attention of Congress, to the end that, in its wisdom, an appropriation of \$250,000 may be granted with which to erect a suitable structure in Paris upon the grounds so generously donated, to be known as the American National Institute, with all its immense advantages to the American youth, male and female.

When the gifts that have been donated are called in, their total value will not be less than \$100,000.

The scholarships that have been given are as follows:

Mrs. Walden-Pell .....	\$10,000
Mrs. James Jackson .....	10,000
Mrs. Frank Leslie .....	5,000
The Baroness Zedwitz .....	500

The institute will be self-sustaining through private contributions and scholarships, and no claim for any expense attendant upon its due and proper maintenance will be asked or expected from the Govern-

ment of the United States beyond the sum of \$250,000 for the erection of the structure.

In this connection I submit, as an appendix to this report, 14 building sites, any one of which is suitable and may be selected. One-half of these is valued at \$250,000 each, while the least would at a low estimate be \$60,000. The municipal council is anxious to close negotiations for any one of these sites, based upon favorable action by the Congress of the United States. I trust, therefore, Mr. President, that you will lay this matter promptly before that body, with such recommendation as the weight of your official character and influence will necessarily impart, to the end that that which is within our grasp of so much benefit to our citizens may not be wholly lost to them.

The United States are called to high destinies. Through them the civilization of old Europe will enter upon a new phase by preparing the future and by uniting the qualities of the different nations of the world, but particularly of France, whose treasures we wish to borrow of art, literature, and science, in order to spread them among our best scholars.

MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder and Director-General of the  
American National Institute.*

HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Delegate and Secretary General of the  
American National Institute,  
Paris, 24 Avenue de Saxe.*

#### PETITION TO WILLIAM M'KINLEY, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

Miss Matilda Smedley, founder and director-general; Mrs. Walden-Pell, honorary president; Mrs. James Jackson, founder of the library; Henri von Daur, secretary-general of the American National Institute, have the honor to submit to you, Mr. President, the following petition supported by the Académie Française and members of the Institut de France, and other classes of distinguished organizations of the arts and literature of France, in support of the American National Institute, Prix de Paris, which are living testimonials of the good will and welcome of the French nation:

The institute, as it is planned, will be to the United States what the Prix de Rome has been and is to France.

Everyone interested in the progress of the future of our glorious nation's real welfare, and in the success of our talented students who come to Paris to perfect themselves in these respective branches of education, will acknowledge that the institute is the only solution of the difficulty that retards the arts of our country.

The American National Institute (Prix de Paris) will not only render us finished artists, but competent teachers, paving the way for a national standard.

But cultivating the highest degree of art education, under the best advantages in the French capital, a special study of the French language is absolutely necessary, and should begin at home to be perfected in the institute.

The establishment of the American National Institute will afford the most complete satisfaction to a noble and legitimate cause by developing more intimate relations between the two sister Republics, in social life as well as in literature and the arts.

The American National Institute (Prix de Paris) has received contributions from the first masters in France in painting, sculpture, objets d'art, literary works, etc. Musicians have been equally liberal in granting one continuous free scholarship. A letter of consideration has been secured to grant at the proper moment the privilege of public utility. Such sympathy and testimonials have never been given in such generous measure to a foreign institute in France, and on the basis of such generosity of gifts from the great Republic of France, we are confident that Mr. William McKinley, President of the United States, together with the proper authorities at Washington, will not fail to give the full consideration to our petition.



Signed in support thereof by—

M. M. F. BRUNETIERE, *de l'Académie Française, directeur de la Revue des deux mondes.*

G. BOISSIER, *secrétaire perpétuel de l'Académie Française.*

JOSÉ MARIA DE HEREDIA, *de l'Académie Française.*

THUREAU DANGIN, *historien, de l'Académie Française.*

ANDRÉ THEURIET, *auteur de romans, de l'Académie Française.*

HENRY HUSSAYE, *auteur, de l'Académie Française.*

JULES LEMAITRE, *publiciste, de l'Académie Française.*

LE DUC DE BROGLIE, *de l'Académie Française, ancien président du Conseil et de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

GREARD, *recteur de l'Université de Paris, de l'Académie Française.*

VICOMTE DE BORNIER, *poète, auteur de la "Fille de Rolland," de l'Académie Française.*

GEBHART, *professeur à l'Université de Paris, Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

COMTE D'HAUSSONVILLE, *historien, publiciste de l'Académie Française.*

MEZIÈRES, *professeur à l'Université de Paris, député, de l'Académie Française.*

PAUL BOURGET, *auteur, de l'Académie Française.*

ALBERT VANDAL, *historien, de l'Académie Française.*

GASTON PARIS, *philologue de l'Académie des suscriptions, administrateur du Collège de France, de l'Académie Française.*

EUGÈNE GUILLAUME, *sculpteur, de l'Académie des beaux-arts, de l'Académie Française, directeur de l'Académie de France à Rome.*

LUDOVIC HALÉVY, *auteur dramatique, de l'Académie Française.*

LAVISSE, *professeur à l'Université de Paris, de l'Académie Française.*

PAUL DESCHANEL, *de l'Académie Française, président de la Chambre des Députés.*

SULLY PRUDHOMME, *de l'Académie Française.*

GEORGE CLAIRIN, *artiste peintre.*

G. HANOTAUX, *de l'Académie Française, ancien Ministre des affaires étrangères.*

GEORGES PICOT, *secrétaire perpétuel de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

FRANÇOIS COPPÉE, *de l'Académie Française.*

JULES CAMBON, *ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the French Republic at Washington.*

EDMOND ROUSSE, *ancien bâtonnier de l'Ordre des avocats, de l'Académie Française.*

VICOMTE E. M. VOGUE, *de l'Académie Française.*

ALBERT SOREL, *historien, de l'Académie Française.*

COMTE DE MUN, *député, de l'Académie Française.*

LÉON BONNANT, *peintre, de l'Académie des beaux-arts.*

CAROLUS DURAN, *président de la Société nationale des beaux-arts.*

BARTHOLDI, *vice-président de la Société des artistes Française.*

BENJAMIN CONSTANT, *artiste peintre, de l'Académie des beaux-arts.*

CORMON, *artiste peintre, de l'Académie des beaux-arts.*

ED. CORROYER, *artiste peintre, de l'Académie des beaux-arts.*

GEROME, *artiste peintre, de l'Académie des beaux-arts.*

JULES BRETON, *artiste peintre, de l'Académie des beaux-arts.*

JULES CLARETIE, *de l'Académie Française.*

MARQUIS COSTA DE BEAUREGARD, *de l'Académie Française.*

WILLIAM BOUGUEREAU, *artiste peintre, membre de l'Institut.*

L. LEPINE, *préfet de police.*

AUG. RODIN, *sculpteur.*

EMILE CLAIRIN, *président de la IV. Commission du Conseil municipal de Paris.*

JOY V. CHELMINSKY, *artiste peintre.*

I. DE SELVES, *préfet de la Seine.*

LYON CAEN, *professeur à la Faculté de droit, de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

ROQUAIN, *historien, de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

RAVAISONMOLLIEN, *philosophe, de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

ADOLPHE GUILLOT, *jurisconsulte, de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

LUCHAIRE, *historien, de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

ANATOLE LEROY-BEAULIEU, *publiciste, de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

AUCOC, *jurisconsulte, de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

D. PUECH, *sculpteur.*

L. PUECH, *député de Paris.*

Signed in support thereof by—

GEORGES LEYGUES, *ministre de l'instruction publique et des beaux-arts.*

HENRI ROUJON, *membre de l'Académie des beaux-arts, directeur des beaux-arts.*

E. SAGLIO, *directeur du Musée de Cluny, membre de l'Institut.*

DOCTEUR CH. RICHET, M. D., *professeur de la Faculté de médecine, membre de l'Institut.*

DOCTEUR ALBERT ROBIN.

J. BERNARDI, *directeur de l'Indépendance Belge.*

LÉON CLERY, *avocat à la Cour d'appel.*

FÉLIX HERBET, *avocat à la Cour d'appel, maire du VI. arrondissement.*

LE DUC DE POMAR.

GEORGES OHNET, *auteur.*

JULIEN PIERNE, *compositeur.*

RENÉ LENORMAND, *compositeur.*

ÉMILE SOLDI COLBERT, *auteur de la Langue Sacrée.*

[Official translation.]

WASHINGTON, July 31, 1901.

Mr. DAUSSET,

*President of the Municipal Council of Paris.*

Mr. PRESIDENT: I beg most respectfully to deliver over the present letter to the promoters of the American National Institute, which is to be established here in Paris in order to create a center of artistical studies in behalf of American students, alike to the school of Rome and Athens for French young men.

The Paris town council have been pleased to show their sympathy toward said undertaking by the grant of a ground parcel for the buildings.

It would be indeed lucky and auspicious for the future. Said sympathy and encouragement would continue to be bestowed on the American National Institute, as there is no undertaking more proper to bring closer the friendly ties that bind us with the United States of America and develop beyond the Atlantic the artistical and moral influence of Paris and France.

I am, sir, with the highest regards,

Your most devoted and obedient servant,

JULES CAMBON, *French Ambassador.*

[Translation.]

PALAIS DU LOUVRE, March 13, 1899.

We can not too highly applaud Miss Smedley's generous conception.

It is with great pleasure that, after so many others, I wish the happiest future to the work of which she is the originator.

A. KAEMPFEN,

*Director of the National Museums and of the School of Louvre.*

To the signatures of my colleagues I add mine, with all my good wishes for the American National Institute. I will give either a drawing or study.

Tanusery, 1899.

CLAIRIN, *Artistic Painter.*

Mademoiselle SMEDLEY.

You have done me the honor to explain to me your plan of founding an establishment for American girls who come to Paris for the purpose of studying art. To insure its success the generous heart and the practical sense are required, and both my friends and myself are entirely at your disposal for anything which could help you in your work.

The Sixth Ward of Paris is too proud to possess on its territory the School of Arts and School des Arts Décoratifs to remain indifferent to the studies which you intend to favor. Will you allow me, then, in the name of Mr. Paul Colin, painter, chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, subdirector of the School des Arts Décoratifs, inspector, etc., and my former colleague, 2 Quai Malaquais, and in the name of Mr. Ferdinand Chaigneau, also painter and engraver, Cité des Fleurs, and both of whom highly approve of your idea, which I explained to them, as well as in my own, to thank you for having kindly associated us in your work.

Respectfully,

F. HERBET, LL. D.,

*Lawyer at the Court of Appeals, Membre du Comité.*

PARIS, January 9, 1900.

TO MR. WILLIAM MCKINLEY,  
*President of the United States.*

YOUR EXCELLENCY: I have the honor to inform Your Excellency of the success which has crowned the effort to found and establish the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) on the same principles as the Academy of France at Rome and Athens.

We were encouraged by private assurance and the many friends at Washington familiar with the project that the request expressed in our petition addressed to Your Excellency would be granted in due time, and we therefore tried to overcome every obstacle which might interfere with the realization of our aspiration.

I am happy to say that we have solved a point of the highest importance, by the concession of ground from the municipal council of Paris upon which to erect the institute, thereby overcoming the difficulty of our Government acquiring real estate in a foreign country. This act on the part of France is quite unprecedented; no similar privilege has ever been granted a foreign nation. To obtain such favorable results from the representatives of the city of Paris is loyal testimony of good will, generosity, and friendship.

I am convinced that the gracious words in our President's message, of December 5, to Congress in relation to the American National Institute tended to strengthen and solidify these sentiments. It was in the most gracious and opportune manner that Your Excellency spoke of the establishment in Paris of the American National Institute as a commemoration of the part taken by the United States in the great enterprise of the World's Exposition of 1900, and we are most thankful for your kindness, and the crowning result will be the best proof of the effectiveness of this assurance.

The highest attributes and policy of a great nation are to be liberal and munificent, to be free with her awards, splendid in her establishments, and grand in her public works. Wherever the standard of culture in the fine arts is most highly elevated we receive the respect of the whole civilized world.

Another proof of the most eloquent nature is the multitude of signatures of the most distinguished men of France in the literary, artistic, and scientific world, to a resolution which Miss Smedley, the founder and director of the American National Institute, will have the honor to present personally to Your Excellency upon her early arrival in Washington.

A house has been rented in the most central location of Paris, 50 Avenue d'Iéna, Place des Etats-Unis, to be used for the preliminary and administrative work of the institute; also to receive and place gifts, such as statuary, books, pictures, and objects of art donated to the institute, as well as to receive students who have been provided with private scholarships.

It was planned to inaugurate this house January 1, 1900, but on account of the death of our respected honorary president, Mrs. Warden-Pell, the inauguration was postponed. Mrs. Walden-Pell's knowledge of the requirements of American students pursuing their studies abroad prompted her to become a friend and patron of the work. Last year she gave a scholarship of \$10,000 to the institute, to be known as the Walden-Pell Scholarship for Music, to be under the control of Miss Smedley. In recognition of this noble donation to the institute we recommended her to Mr. G. Leigues, the minister of public instruction, who thereupon decorated her as an "officier d'Académie."

The American National Institute is daily receiving gifts and assurances of support and protection from all directions. Mrs. James Jackson, a noble-minded American lady residing in Paris, has also given a scholarship of \$10,000, founded the library of the institute, and has recently donated a bust of Christ in marble by the American sculptor, Ezekiel, at Rome.

One of the recent literary publications of the learned Cardinal Rampolla has been sent to Miss Smedley by the cardinal himself, constituting a testimony of high appreciation from the Vatican.

During our travels in Italy last summer, where we studied the condition of schools and academies to acquire a knowledge which would assist us in directing American students of the institute at Paris, we visited the art centers of Rome and Venice and put ourselves in communication with the great masters and directors of art institutions, receiving everywhere an assurance of cordial collaboration in all works tending to advance the interest of American students.

While in Venice I had the honor to introduce Miss Smedley to Commendatore Barozzi, director of the Royal Museums, who gave her as a token of his acknowledgment of the work a most valuable collection of 27 heliogravures, reproductions of the frescoes by Paolo Veronese. These reproductions can not be obtained through commerce, and are a most valuable gift to the institute.

At Rome we have studied the academies and art establishments of other nations in this city; have had interviews with the respective directors; among others an interview with Dr. Guido Baccelli, minister of public instruction and director of archæology, who expressed himself in the highest terms by saying that he wished it might have been the good fortune of Rome to possess such an institute instead of Paris.

We are proud of such testimonials, and the realization of this work will be the crowning monuments of a noble woman's life dream and seven long years of tireless effort.

When I first visited the United States in 1890 I recognized the great qualities and possibilities of that glorious country, and upon studying the Constitution and Declaration of Independence I was seized with a desire to become a citizen, and did not hesitate to make my first declaration in the spirit of the historical motto of America, "Unite or die." I was proud when the final day arrived and I received the document which made me an American citizen, and for the last three years I have devoted my experience and knowledge of Europe to further the development and extension of the fine arts in America, and joined with enthusiasm in Miss Smedley's great work of founding the American National Institute.

I have recognized the talent possessed by young American students, and what a great blessing it would be if they could possess in Europe an academy where they could reach the standard of art of the nations of the Old World. Paris is to-day the center of activity in art, but, as the famous explorer of Egypt, Champollion, once said, "Without Egypt, Greece could never have become a classical country in fine arts," and it was in the same spirit that France centuries ago founded an academy in Rome. It is her example we have followed, hoping to attain the same glorious results.

With the assurance of my highest respect, I have the honor to remain,

Your excellency's most obedient servant,

HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General, Paris.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March 28, 1900.*

WILLIAM MCKINLEY, *President of the United States:*

It will be recalled that in your message to Congress of December 5, 1899, you made use of the following language:

The United States Government building is approaching completion, and no effort will be spared to make it worthy, in beauty of architectural plan and in completeness of display, to represent our nation. It has been suggested that a permanent building of similar or appropriate design be erected on a convenient site, already given by the municipality, near the exposition grounds, to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American National Institute, for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study.

As you know, for years I have been deeply interested in a scheme known as the American National Institute (Prix de Paris). The aim of this institute is to procure for the young men and women of the United States advantage of finishing in France their education in literature and the sciences, as well as in the different branches of the arts; for example, painting, engraving, sculpture, architecture, music, and the drama. Scholarships (Prix de Paris) will also be created similar to the scholarships (Prix de Rome) which are awarded to French artists.

MATILDA SMEDLEY.

As showing more fully, if need be, the importance of this institute and the benefits to be derived therefrom by my countrymen and countrywomen, I append hereto certain papers to which I cordially invite your attention.

## INCLOSURES.

The Prefect of Police of Paris to the Ambassador of the United States, December 16, 1896.

Extract from letter of Mr. Van Vechten Olcott, November 15, 1897.

Mr. Jules Cambon to Miss Smedley, December 2, 1898.

General Porter to the Prefect of the Seine, Paris, January 20, 1899.

Mr. Jules Cambon to the Prefect of the Seine, Paris, February 7, 1899.

Letters from Mr. A. Kaempfen, M. Clairin, Mr. Jules Cambon, Mr. Henry Houssaye, Mr. T. M. de Heredia, Mr. E. M. de Vogilie, Mr. E. Soldi Colbert, to Miss Smedley.

Mr. John D. Crimmins to President McKinley, May 2, 1899.

Mr. Laisney to Miss Smedley, October 23, 1899.

Mr. Richet to Miss Smedley, February 14, 1900.

From Cardinal Rampolla, October 24, 1899.

From Mr. Zonghi, October 27, 1899.

Mr. Henri von Daur to President McKinley, January 9, 1900.

Minutes of the meeting of the American National Institute, February 6, 1900.

Mr. Thomas Hastings to Miss Smedley, March 17, 1900.

Mr. Howard Russell Butler to Miss Smedley, March 19, 1900.

Miss Sarah E. Buckbee to Miss Smedley, March 20, 1900.

List of signers of petition to the United States Government.

Maps representing 14 sites to be selected from in the city of Paris.

PARIS, December 2, 1898.

MADAME: You have been good enough to write to me, as has also Mr. von Daur, to ask me to become a member of the honorary council of the American National Institute.

I can not do otherwise than accept the honor you do me, and thank you, for the work you are striving to realize is worthy of every sympathy.

I beg you to receive, Madame, the assurance of my highest consideration.

JULES CAMBON,

*Ambassador of France to the United States.*

MISS SMEDLEY,

*Founder-Director of the American National Institute in Paris:*

Where is the Frenchman who would not offer all his good wishes for the foundation of the American National Institute, and who would not help toward the success of this noble work by which the sympathy between two great peoples will be increased?

HENRY HOUSSEY,

*Of the French Academy.*

With all the sympathy of—

T. M. DE HEREDIA,

*Of the French Academy.*

AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS, 18 AVENUE KLÉBER,

*Paris, le 20 janvier 1899.*

Monsieur de SELVES,

*Préfet de la Seine, Paris.*

MONSIEUR LE PRÉFET: Mon prédécesseur, Mr. Eustis, avait pris sous son patronage l'American National Institute que plusieurs de mes nationaux, et un certain nombre des vôtres, veulent fonder à Paris pour faciliter l'étude des arts aux jeunes américains des deux sexes, qui, chaque année, viennent chercher en France un enseignement supérieur. Cet institut étant une œuvre d'initiative particulière, je n'ai pas à intervenir dans les démarches qui peuvent assurer sa fondation. Je vous demande, cependant, la permission de vous présenter Mademoiselle Smedley qui s'est consacrée à cette œuvre et qui désire vous entretenir à ce sujet.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Préfet, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

HORACE PORTER.

NEW YORK, March 17, 1900.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
24 Iowa Circle, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: My talk with you yesterday afternoon was most interesting and encouraging, and I can not but tell you how much I appreciate the good work you have done.

Referring to the question of how to obtain the best results in securing plans for your building, I would suggest that you employ some one, the best man you can think of in the profession, either here or in Paris, to form a written programme, giving the conditions of a competition; that is to say, specifying the number of drawings needed and the kind of drawings, also giving a programme of the plot and a full description of the building desired, and that when this programme has been written that you invite everybody to compete, and finally ask the jury of the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris to select from these drawings made in competition the best one for your building. This, I believe, would give the most satisfactory result.

Wishing you every further success in your enterprise, with kindest regards, believe me,

Very sincerely, yours,

THOMAS HASTINGS.

AMERICAN FINE ARTS SOCIETY,  
New York, March 19, 1900.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
No 24 Iowa Circle, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I heartily congratulate you upon the great success achieved in Paris in securing the land for the American (Prix de Paris) Institute. Of course I realize that the land is secured only on the condition that a fund for the building is forthcoming, either from private subscriptions or Government appropriation.

The proposed institute, if properly organized, will, in my opinion, be of great usefulness, not only in elevating the standard of art in this country but also in cementing the cordial relations of the two countries, and my personal cooperation will be gladly given on the condition which I emphasized in a former letter to you, namely, that the enterprise be so organized and safeguarded that the advantages shall accrue to the most deserving and talented students.

I am, very truly, yours,

HOWARD RUSSELL BUTLER.

PARIS, *February 21, 1893.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am much interested to know that you have undertaken to found an institute for the American students in music and art. I shall use all my influence to help you to carry out your projects.

My experience will serve to show that there does not exist such an institution for the American students, for I have known many who have had to struggle against difficulties, and obliged to return home without having accomplished the purpose for which they came, while others almost died for want of proper nourishment during the time of study, and not for the want of means, for many have to stop where the table is so poor that they do not get enough to eat.

The bureau of general information will be invaluable, as through it the students will be well directed and have protection from fraud and loss of time. Also the language course of lecture will place the student under the course of best literature and culture of the day.

Knowing, from what I hear, that you are entirely qualified for this work, I would recommend parents to place their daughters with perfect confidence. The place of the institution is unique in itself.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. WALDEN-PELL.

GAUVIX, COURTONNE LA MURDRAC, PAR LISIEUX,  
October 23, 1899.

DEAR MADAME: It was with great pleasure I read in the Figaro three weeks ago that the work to which you have so long devoted yourself was soon to be inaugurated and organized in Paris.

Your American National Institute will therefore soon be able to receive your young compatriots coming over to perfect their studies in the arts taught in Paris.

I am rejoiced first of all on your account, for you are greatly deserving of the esteem and assistance both of your own country and of ours. The day you are able to inaugurate your good establishment you will have the very great satisfaction of seeing your work definitely achieved and will receive all the thanks due to you.

I shall not be one of the last to congratulate you. If I can for my part help you in your institute, will you allow me to give you the name of one of my friends, Mr. René Lenormand, a well-known composer? His compositions are, I believe, much liked in America, and I know he has many pupils and admirers among the American families in Paris. He could, if your programme allow of it, direct a class of music in your institute, and I am sure his teaching would be very quickly appreciated.

I am writing to Mr. René Lenormand to call on you, and you could tell him if you could utilize his talent in the interest of your young compatriots. If you can do so, I shall congratulate myself on having made you make Mr. Lenormand's acquaintance.

In any case all my good wishes accompany you, and no one more than myself will applaud your legitimate success.

Accept, dear madam, the assurance of my most distinguished sentiments.

LAISNEY.

I gave up a year ago my duties of solicitor in Paris to become president of the tribunal at Lisieux.

[Translation.]

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AND FINE ARTS,  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR,  
Palais Royal, Paris, January 17, 1905.

The honorable SECRETARY-GENERAL:

In response to the very kind letter with which you have favored me I have the honor to assure you that I am very happy to express my appreciation of the thought which has suggested the establishment of the "American National Institute" in Paris, and I deeply feel the compliment thus paid to our country and its capital in making this choice.

My administration will be happy to second the purposes of the city of Paris favoring this project by furnishing to the representatives of your society all information at our disposal regarding instruction in fine arts, and the methods and regulations which prevail in France for the organization of the Beaux Arts.

I beg you to accept, Mr. Secretary-General, the assurance of my highest consideration.

H. MARCELE, *the Director of Beaux Arts.*

MR. VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General of the American National Institute, 24 Avenue de Saxe.*

PARIS, le 26 avril 1900.

MONSIEUR VON DAUR,  
*Secrétaire général de l'Institut national américain, Paris.*

MONSIEUR ET CHER CONFRÈRE: Je vous adresse en hâte ces lignes pour vous rassurer. Si le Président de la République a refusé d'assister à la séance d'inauguration de demain soir et de s'y faire représenter, c'est que le ministre des affaires étrangères est absent; il est de règle, en effet, qu'il n'assiste à aucune solennité d'un caractère officiel sans la présence du ministre que la solennité concerne spécialement. En outre, il n'assiste jamais à des réunions privées (il y en aurait trop), mais la réunion de demain n'est pas considérée comme privée, elle est officielle. Telles sont les explications que m'a données très gracieusement le général secrétaire de la présidence. Il a approuvé entièrement la phrase de mon allocution relative aux dispositions bienveillantes du Président de la République, attendu que les dispositions sont, en réalité, des plus favorables.

Veuillez, monsieur et cher confrère, présenter mes respectueux hommages à Miss Smedley et mes sentiments tout affectueux et dévoués.

SULLY PRUDHOMME.



COMÉDIE FRANÇAISE,  
ADMINISTRATEUR GÉNÉRAL,  
8 décembre 1900.

Monsieur HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secrétaire général de l'American National Institute.*

MONSIEUR LE SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL: Je serai très heureux et je suis très honoré de faire partie du comité de patronage de l'art dramatique dans votre admirable American National Institute. Vous pouvez donc, monsieur, disposer de moi. Mais présentement je suis tellement soumis à l'imprévu, et cela jusqu'à la réouverture de la Comédie, que je n'ose en toute sincérité donner un rendez-vous ferme, redoutant d'être malgré moi obligé d'y manquer. J'appartiens au téléphone. Je suis cependant au théâtre de la place du Châtelet dans l'après-midi, mais encore une fois je n'ose vous donner un jour précis, et je serais désolé de vous faire perdre un temps précieux.

Croyez, monsieur, je vous prie à mes sentiments très distingués et absolument dévoués.

JULES CLARETIE.

PARIS, le 26 mai 1900.

Monsieur H. VON DAUR,  
*Secrétaire Général de l'American National Institute, Paris.*

MONSIEUR: Comme vous savez, je prends un vif intérêt à toutes les questions américaines et surtout à toutes celles qui contribuent à unir la France et les États-Unis dans des pensées communes.

Veillez donc assurer, Miss Smedley, que j'accepte volontiers de faire partie de la commission des concours et du jury qui sera appelé à apprécier les compétiteurs du Prix de Paris.

Je m'associe avec plaisir, dans la mesure où cela me sera possible, à la réalisation de sa noble entreprise.

Veillez agréer, monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

BARTHOLDI,  
*Vice-Président de la Société des Artistes Français.*

AMBASSADE DES ÉTATS-UNIS,  
Paris, le 18 Décembre 1903.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: It is with much pleasure that I have read the new documents which you have sent me relative to the American National Institute (Prix de Paris), and I congratulate you as well as the members of the board of trustees on having conducted this matter to the point where its success is assured. Those who, like myself, desire to see their compatriots profit more extensively by the artistic, literary, and scientific culture which can only be found in France, will be deeply grateful to you.

In the United States, as you know, there is one general voice of approval and encouragement for your enterprise.

The letter of Senator Frye, President of the Senate; that of Mr. Hay, the Secretary of State; that of Mr. Adee, the under Secretary of State, as well as the flattering note which President Roosevelt wrote in your golden book, all testify to this fact.

It is now the duty of our French friends to show that they take the same interest that we do in the success of this institution. Now is the time for this. Tell them before your leave, and say to Mr. von Daur, the zealous and disinterested secretary of the institute, that he must repeat it to them during your absence, which I hope will be a short one. My best wishes accompany you.

I beg you to believe, dear Miss Smedley, in the sincerity of your devoted servant,

HENRY VIGNAUD,  
*First Secretary of the United States Embassy at Paris.*

Mlle. MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Fondatrice et Directrice de  
l'American National Institute, Paris.*

AMBASSADE DES ÉTATS-UNIS, Paris.

These lines will introduce to you Dr. B. F. Campbell, who desires information which I am sure you will take pleasure in giving him.

Truly, yours,

HENRY VIGNAUD,  
*First Secretary.*

MISS SMEDLEY,  
*Founder and Director-General, American National Institute.*

AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS,  
18 Avenue Kleber, Paris, August 30, 1901.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I inclose herewith a letter from Mrs. George H. Kendall, asking for certain information, which I trust you will kindly furnish her. No one can do so better than you.

Very respectfully,

HENRY VIGNAUD, *First Secretary.*

AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS,  
Paris, September 30, 1901.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I inclose herewith a letter from Mr. G. H. Glysbek, of Cincinnati, Ohio, who desires information, which I trust you will be able to furnish.

HENRY VIGNAUD, *First Secretary.*

AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS, Paris.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I give these few lines to Mrs. Oats and her son, who are highly recommended to this embassy. I have no doubt you will take pleasure in advising them, and I am sure you can do that much better than I.

Respectfully,

HENRY VIGNAUD.

SECRÉTAIRE-GÉNÉRAL  
DE L'INSTITUT NATIONAL AMÉRICAIN,  
Paris, le 4 Janvier 1904.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am very happy to tell you that I have shown the letter of Mr. H. Vignaud, first secretary of our embassy, to Mr. Deville, the president of the municipal council of Paris, and the same afternoon I had an appointment with the reporter, Mr. Lambelin, at the Hotel de Ville. He also was very pleased and perfectly satisfied \* \* \* this time. This, he said, will now convince everybody in the council, and he does not doubt in the least for a satisfactory issue when the matter will be voted, and, more so, he has promised me that we shall have, through his endeavor, the ground at the Champs de Mars.

I have also visited the maire of our arrondissement (the 7th), which means also Champs de Mars, and we are sure of his cooperation, as he is delighted with our project and particularly to be in his arrondissement. He promised me to use all his influence. He gave me a full hour interview.

So there is nothing else to be done here for the moment. It remains for you to get everything settled on that basis in Washington, as you may also depend upon an immediate information of the decision of the municipal council regarding location.

With best wishes for a perfect success, I remain, yours, devotedly,

H. VON DAUB, *Secretary-General.*

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder and Director-General of the  
American National Institute.*

ROME, October 24, 1899.

Promovere l'incremento delle arti belle è opera che attamente onora gli iniziatori e merita lode ed incoraggiamento; poiche lo studio delle belle arti innalza gli animi a Dio, sommo esemplare de ogni bellezza incivilisce i popoli e forma i più nobile ornamento delle grandi nazioni.

M. CARDINAL RAMPOLLA

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder-General of the American National Institute:*

I am happy to indorse this great work, and trust Venice may contribute to its progress.

Comendatore NICOLA BAROZZI,  
*Director of the Royal Museum of Archaeology at Venice.*

NOVEMBER 7, 1899.

My mother, Lady Caithness, Duchess de Pomar, having taken a deep interest in the American National Institute, and having understood this great undertaking and its founder, Matilda Smedley, from her first arrival in Paris, and her work from the beginning, I am pleased to state that I will always take the greatest interest in the progress of the work.

POMAR.

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I strongly recommend the efforts of Miss Smedley in behalf of this institution.

J. B. EUSTIS,  
United States Ambassador, Paris, France.

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124 WAGRAM AVENUE,  
Holyrood, Paris, October 10, 1896.

What grand success you are having, dearest friend. I am greatly in hopes we shall really have you with us with a beautiful home of your own before long. But let me say something, and that is do not wait till a house is built, but with a furnished one in the meantime begin as soon as possible.

I know several charming girls who are in despair. They do not know where to go or what to do, and are living miserably. I hope your institute will soon be opened and that English girls will be admitted. One of these I mention is cousin to Lord Wolseley.

LADY CAITHNESS (Duchess de Pomar).

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25 OCTOBRE, 1896.

CHÈRE MADEMOISELLE: J'ai bien du regret d'être si loin et de ne pouvoir vous rendre visite.

Oui, certes, j'accepte d'être membre honoraire de votre utile entreprise, non seulement parce qu'elle est bonne et belle, mais enfin en souvenir de notre chère et vaillante amie Emilie de Morsier que vous n'avez pas retrouvée, hélas! lorsque vous êtes revenue en France.

Je vous fais envoyer aussi, comme vous en avez témoigné le désir, quelques exemplaires de la Revue scientifique.

Croyez-moi, je vous prie, votre très respectueux admirateur et serviteur.

CHARLES RICHET,  
Prof. Fac. Méd., Membre du Comité.

Château de Casqueiranne, Hyères.

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Cette institution me paraît être du plus grand intérêt et elle a toutes mes sympathies.

BARON ALPHONSE DE ROTHSCHILD, C.

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I know, dear Miss Smedley, that since you began to work for the realization of this dream of yours and of Mrs. Walden-Pell's you have certainly put in practice the motto which our dear friend, the Duchess of Pomar, has made her own, "Commit thy work to God," and in this same faith I will do all I can to help you.

EMILIE DE MORSIER,  
Organizer and Secretary-General of the Congress of Women's Work,  
held at Paris, 1889, under the patronage of the French Government.

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L'amie de ma vraie amie Emilie de Morsier, au nom de ma chère patrie, je suis bien heureuse de cette grande idée—le prix de Paris faisant le pendant du prix de Rome. La France unie à l'Amérique par la science et le cœur.

ISABELLE BOGELOT,  
Directrice des libérées de Saint-Lazare, Chevalier de la  
Légion d'honneur, Membre honoraire du Comité.

PORTLAND, ME., May 16, 1902.

MY DEAR SENATOR: You are aware that our people will not patronize nor fairly appreciate the talent, skill, or abilities of our American-born young artists unless they have "studied in Paris." Hence many of our gifted students, conscious of talent and measurably proficient in their art, seem forced to go to Paris. For such persons, when not financially able to secure fitting conditions of living, the existing conditions for such "artist life" in Paris are far from such as you would wish to have our students subjected to. Indeed, I shall have to say they are demoralizing and perilous. You will readily understand.

Miss Smedley, filled with sympathy for these young people, has succeeded in enlisting to a very remarkable degree many of the best men and women in France in her efforts to establish an institute for the especial care and protection and encouragement of American students of talent and worth. The municipality of Paris has recognized this in the most gracious way. Now, the cooperation of our Government seems reasonable and proper. In whatever way and degree this can be manifested you know better than I, but I trust something may be found practicable.

With best regards,

JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN,  
*Ex-Governor of Maine, Ex-President Bowdoin College.*

HON. WILLIAM P. FRYE,  
*United States Senate.*

BRUNSWICK, ME.

MY DEAR SIR: I am glad to learn that you have expressed some interest in the object proposed by the American National Institute, Paris, France. I need not recite them. Feeling that inasmuch as our people demand that students of the arts and sciences must have some study and practice under the best masters in Paris before they can be recognized as worthy of consideration and patronage, I have for some time taken interest in this effort to provide a place in Paris where our young people whose gifts warrant the ambition to excel in work of this kind may receive protected direction and encouragement while exposed to so many unfavorable influences.

This American National Institute was projected to afford such care and aid. Its objects and its inauguration have impressed the high officials of Paris and very many of the most famous masters there to such a degree as to bring out a remarkable interest, amounting to practical assistance and cooperation.

It seems that we in our country ought to meet this generous action of the people of France. Miss Smedley has done a great work, and is held in honor on account of it as well as for her personal high qualities of character.

It is now proposed to ask our Government to recognize this work by suitable encouragement, as it has certain relations of public and national interest which make such action proper.

I trust that Miss Smedley's efforts to secure an appropriation in aid of this institute may be successful.

I have the honor to be, with my high regards,

Very truly, yours,

JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN.  
THOMAS W. CRIDLER.

The Hon. WILLIAM B. ALLISON,  
*United States Senate.*

That this matter is not without interest from public men of America, I may say that I sought the advice of the present Secretary of State, the Hon. John Hay, who, in a letter addressed to Mrs. Walden Pell, honorary president, of January 27, 1889, said:

Whether it be proposed to make the National Institute an accessory feature of the representation of the United States at the Paris Exposition of 1900, or whether it be proposed to incorporate the institute under national auspices, much in the same way as the Corcoran Art Gallery in this city was incorporated, if the latter were done I am inclined to think that the former would naturally follow, the advantages to be gained from associating the enterprise with the national representation of this country at the Paris Exposition being obviously conducive to its most practical organization on a basis promising permanent and large usefulness.

Again, the Hon. Cushman K. Davis, a distinguished member of the Congress of the United States and present chairman of the Committee

on Foreign Relations of the Senate, said, in a letter dated February 8, 1899:

The President, as he has promised to do, brought the matter of the Institute building to the attention of Mr. Peck, and, as I understand, warmly commended it.

My own opinion is that the question now resolves itself into a plain business proposition, based upon one fact, and that fact is, Has the French Government made a concession for a site or will it make one? If it has made or does make such a concession, I see no reason why the structure can not be erected as desired. If it has not, of course the scheme for aid by the United States funds dedicated to the exposition building will fail. I put this matter very plainly that it may be distinctly understood by those who are more directly interested in the subject.

The Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, a Senator of the United States from the State of New York, in a recent communication to me, says:

I cordially concur in the views and suggestions of Senator Davis.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
Washington, August 24, 1898.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Van Dyck Studios, Eighth Avenue and Fifty-sixth Street, New York, N. Y.*

DEAR MADAM: I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 20th instant, the contents of which have been noted, and to inform you that the matter to which you refer will, in accordance with the instructions of the President, be brought to the attention of Commissioner-General Peck.

Very truly, yours,

J. A. PORTER,  
*Secretary to the President.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, August 24, 1898.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Eighth Avenue and Fifty-sixth Street, New York City, N. Y.*

DEAR MADAM: I have to acknowledge, by direction of the Secretary of State, the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, in regard to the proposed American National Institute in Paris in connection with the participation of the Government of the United States in the Paris Exposition of 1900.

In reply I have to inform you that your letter has been referred to Mr. Ferdinand W. Peck, Commissioner-General of the United States to that exposition.

Faithfully, yours,

THOS. H. CRIDLER,  
*Third Assistant Secretary.*

203 BOULEVARD RASPAIL,  
Paris, France, March 10, 1900.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder and Director-General of the  
American National Institute (Prix de Paris).*

DEAR MADAM: I wish to thank you and Mr. Henry von Daur, the secretary-general of the American National Institute, for the assistance which you rendered me in getting permission to enter the Ecole Normal. I am now able to begin the study of the French system of manual training, for I received permission to-day to enter at any time. As I wrote you, when asking for your assistance, I have been since last November trying to get this permission, which you succeeded in getting for me in such a short time. This experience has cost me a good deal of time and money and has shown me how useful and expedient the American National Institute is. The high consideration which it receives from the French authorities makes it an easy matter for students coming here to study to obtain what they wish by applying through the institute.

I have many reasons to be thankful to you as the founder of the institute and Mr. von Daur, the secretary.

Very truly, yours,

L. L. SUMMERS.

PRIX DE PARIS.

Vous avez fondé pour les ans,  
Pour la gloire et l'aube éthérée,  
Votre œuvre construit en durée;  
Vous l'avez faite pour le Temps.

Vous saviez—pour qu'un peuple immense—  
Comprenne à jamais son essor,  
Qu'il faut élargir l'espérance,  
Qu'il faut animer son trésor.

Vous saviez que—pour que les jours  
N'affaiblissent pas nos mémoires—  
Les plus brillantes de nos gloires,  
Partent de l'art y vont toujours!

Vaste espoir, élan fraternel!  
Comme un constructeur de lumière,  
Vous venez planter votre pierre  
Au temple de l'art éternel.

Pour qu'un jour, dans nos fins sublimes,  
De fleurs recouvrant nos tombeaux,  
Le soleil dore d'autres cimes,  
Et germent de nouveaux flambeaux.

MAURICE SAINT-CHAMARAND,  
*Paris, 24 novembre 1903.*

A Miss MATILDE SMEDLEY,  
*Sur la fondation de l'Institut national américain.*

Je suis heureux de pouvoir me joindre à mes collègues et j'approuve cette idée, inspirée par les plus nobles sentiments. Au moment venu je donnerai une petite esquisse.

J.-P. LAURENS,  
*Membre de l'Institut, O.*

34 WEST NINETY-FIRST STREET,  
New York, March 20, 1900.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have just read another article in favor of the American National Institute. I must write you a little of what I feel in regard to the noble work you have done. It is overwhelming.

I have also for years been doing a great educational work, and feel very proud of it, in that I have not only benefited the thousands of pupils that have passed from under my hand, but through them the uplifting influence has reached their homes.

I have been greatly interested in the institute because I have traveled abroad a great deal and have friends among struggling geniuses of our land, and therefore know and realize their great needs, and what a boon such an establishment will be to them; and I can scarcely realize now that the great undertaking is to become an accomplished fact, as I am sure it must be, for America will never permit France to excel her in generosity and courtesy to her struggling talent.

The patience with which it has been brought out, the strength of its foundation, the securing of it as a public utility, which exempts it from taxes, the concession of the land, is all simply enormous, leaving the nation nothing to do but to erect the building and create scholarships.

The social interest you have thrown into this, as well as literature, science, and art, which opens the field on such a grand scale to bring our students in touch with the best the world has to give under such grand conditions, all you may well be proud of.

I read in our President's message his suggestions in regard to the American National Institute. I felt proud of the head of our nation, that in the midst of the overwhelming duties surrounding him he had not failed to see the importance of the great work, and I believe it will be the crowning glory of his administration and will make his name immortal—the establishment of the American National Institute, the Prix de Paris, in the beautiful city of Paris.

Very sincerely,

SARAH E. BUCKBEE

7 EAST SEVENTY-SECOND STREET,  
New York, November, 1895.

This will introduce Miss Smedley, who is the original promoter of the Paris Institute for American lady students.

The object of the institute must appeal to the American public, and from personal experience in Paris with young American lady students, I can not speak too strongly in its behalf for the moral protection it offers young girls alone in a foreign city.

MARY R. CALLENDER.

[Translation.]

15 RUE DE L'UNIVERSITÉ.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am anxious to tell you how glad I am at the success of your noble undertaking. You have had an idea which at first sight appears very simple, it is so just, but which on reflection can not be so simple, since no one thought of it before you—that is, to bring together French and American artists by a more reciprocal and profound knowledge of each other. It is not for me to praise the artistic genius of my fellow-countrymen, nor to boast of the beauties of my dear native city of Paris. But it seems to me that a very happy initiation is possible through a school such as you have planned—a school both Parisian and American. The young Americans coming to it will find there a part of what they love in their native country; they will not feel away from home, isolated, since they will find a temporary home and make one of a large family; but, on the other hand, they will be in Paris, and at each step they take they will have before their eyes the great artistic remains of the past, from the admirable Gothic of Notre Dame de Paris down to our modern constructions, less æsthetic, assuredly, but still most interesting.

One of the great cares of my life has always been to try and do away with the prejudices and errors which are propagated from nation to nation because they do not understand each other. Men must see each other, speak together, in order to be finally persuaded that they all belong to one and the same great human family, and that the legends spread abroad by the newspapers concerning the corruption of the French and the barbarities of the Americans are very false ones. Living in Paris as students, not as spoiled millionaires, your young American pupils will taste the charm of the true Parisian population, which the rich travelers, leading a luxurious life in the big fashionable hotels, can neither know nor appreciate, and they will appreciate the serious qualities that the Parisian hides under his frivolous and skeptical exterior.

We, in our turn, shall profit by the spirit of initiative of energy and by the sentiment of great moral responsibility which do honor to your country people.

Take notice that I do not speak here of education, but of breeding, which, perhaps, is of more value. It is never too late to finish our education, and young men and women can still perfect themselves in the art of good manners. As to instruction, it is evident that it can be pushed very far. No city more than Paris is intellectual. The lessons, classes, conferences, are as numerous here as the museums, the salons of exhibition and of painting; they are widely open, and I tremble at the idea that one can be tempted to follow merely the half of the classes held at the College of France, at the Sorbonne, at the Museum of the Louvre, at the Conservatoire, at the Museum, and elsewhere. There would be enough to occupy ten days in one day, and one would become too learned.

Your young people, when by their talent they have merited, after competition, to be admitted into the American National Institute, will not have all these classes to follow; it will be sufficient for them to choose one or two, so as to profit by them. Lastly, they will find in the American National Institute many precious resources—books, art gallery, and what is still more precious, they will be able to study alone, to commune with themselves; for after the agitation of the day nothing is of more value than the study and reflection that solitude brings.

As there is for young Frenchmen a school at Athens and at Rome, so the American youth will have the school at Paris; and I am sure that this school, under the direction of wise and enlightened masters, will rapidly prosper. Truly, yes, I believe that in a few years it will be a title of honor to have been a pupil of the school of Paris.

This is what the municipal council of Paris and the American Government have so well understood. They have created, thanks to you and your undaunted courage, an institution which will live and cement, if needs be, the union of two great republics, in love with the ideal, with fraternity, and with the love of the beautiful and the true.

Believe me, dear Miss Smedley, yours, very respectfully,

CHARLES RICHTER,  
Faculty of Medicine, Member of the Academy.

PARIS, February 14, 1900.



BRUNSWICK, ME., *February, 1902.*

HON. CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW, U. S. Senator,  
*Washington, D. C.:*

I have watched with great interest the progress of Miss Smedley's efforts to secure the permanent establishment of the American National Institute in Paris. Having been with you associated with the movers of this work from its beginning in New York, I am prompted to write you at this time, which seems to be a critical one, to express my continued interest and satisfaction in recognizing the truly remarkable results thus far accomplished.

Our friends in France, and in particular in Paris, have shown more practical interest in the success of this institute than our own people, for whose honor and advantage it was contemplated. The need of such an institution was never greater than now.

There is a general demand that our young people studying the arts should prosecute some portion of their studies in Paris.

Many of our most gifted students in the arts and sciences are without proper means of securing respect and protection in taking up life in Paris.

I understand that a bill is soon to come before the Senate appropriating a sufficient sum to erect a building on the ground already secured by the kind recognition of the municipal council of Paris.

I trust in your acting as sponsor. You will have the cordial appreciation and support of many people of the highest standing.

With highest regards,

JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN.

40 EAST SIXTY-EIGHTH STREET,  
*May 1, 1902.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Though I sail for Europe to-day, I am not forgetting your matter. If you need my subscription right away, if you will address a line to my secretary, Mr. M. D. Barry, 1033 Third avenue, he will forward it to you.

Sincerely, yours,

JOHN D. CRIMMINS.

BALTIMORE, MD., *July 10, 1899.*

I beg leave to inform Miss Smedley that every undertaking which contributes to the advantage of mankind and scientific improvement of an American student meets with my cordial support, and I hope that the work in which she is engaged will attain the success it deserves.

J. (Cardinal) GIBBONS.

NEW YORK, *January 1, 1904.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Your explanation of your plans for the American Institute in Paris interested me so much that I want now, while wishing you a happy New Year, to express my hope that your excellent work will be carried to a speedy and successful conclusion.

My own experience among American residents abroad and my work as a student in several universities have brought me in contact with many who would have been immeasurably benefited by such an institution as the one whose cause you champion, and I know many others whose efforts have been misdirected and often sadly wasted for the lack of such help as it would seem but just that our Government should provide.

The success of your undertaking, it seems to me, will not only be productive of the best results among American students in Europe, but should also have a reflectedly stimulating effect upon the work of our students at home. Wherefore it seems to me that the higher the development that our educational systems at home attain the more shall we stand in need of just such institutions as yours abroad.

You have my heartiest good wishes for all the good fortune that your admirable plan deserves.

Yours, very sincerely,

NORTON PERKINS.

## EDITORS THE MUSICAL COURIER:

Through your valuable paper of July 7 I have been able to secure the circular of the American National Institute, "Prix de Paris;" further I am pleased to note there is a musical paper that is fully alive to the great necessity of such a work.

Your most valuable articles from Paris, written by Fannie Edgar Thomas, have been leading up to this work, and now there is a possibility of realizing in the near future results which will forever settle the question: Should, can, and will the American girls go abroad to study?

Contemplating the amount of work accomplished by Miss Smedley and the noble patron, Mrs. Walden Pell, as shown forth in the circular, no matter what nation he belongs to or what religion he professes, he must bow in profound admiration before the woman who has had such an ideal, such a heart, and has known how to group around her such noble influences and to unite so many forces, as represented in the circular, of the most illustrious intellects of the world of art and letters.

Is it needful to say that Miss Smedley has been guided by divine inspiration from the very start of this gigantic enterprise, which always secures success? And I trust since The Musical Courier has been doing much good on these lines it will publish from week to week some of the letters contained in the circular.

Many are the girls possessed of rare gifts and artistic ability who, through this institution, may become a Nordica, or Eames, or Elizabeth Gardner, while those of lesser talent will realize their inability when they make application to enter the institute and find they can not be admitted. The strongest point and the groundwork of said institute is to prevent so many going abroad and failing in their efforts.

As set forth in the circular and the letter published by The Musical Courier of the 7th instant from the prefect of police of the city of Paris, the Government of France has great faith in the future of the American National Institute. The help and gifts given by the great masters of France show conclusively that the time has come for such an institution. The gifts of France's great masters, if sold, would bring money enough to build the institution. Shall this be done or will the American people come forward with the money to build the American National Institute to help these girls and secure to the American student the influence of culture and art? The lectures to be given to the institute is an education in itself, while the reduction of masters for lessons to be given to the student of the institute reduces the present expenses of a student in Paris to one-half.

X. X.

JULY 12, 1897.

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56 RUE LA BRUYÈRE,  
Paris, March 9, 1901.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Many thanks for the list of names you were so kind to send me.

I am glad to hear the students enjoy the concerts, and you will find some more invitations inclosed.

Yours, very sincerely,

R. STRAKOSCH.

MISS SMEDLEY: I, the undersigned, Ernest Dubois, chevalier of the Legion of Honor, medal of honor at the Salon, member of the jury de l'Ecole National des Beaux Arts and of the jury of sculpture for the prize of Paris, American National Institute, attest that Mr. Henry Schonhardt, of Providence, R. I., United States of America, who obtained the prize for sculpture at the School of Design of Rhode Island, presented himself to me, and after having given proof of his real talent and remarkable aptitude, as well as serious hard-working qualities, I consented to give him lessons in sculpture in my studio gratuitously; but in view of the fact that his resources are extremely limited, I find myself constrained to write to you in his favor, and, if possible, for you to admit him to lodge at the American National Institute, and to use your influence with the governor of his State (Rhode Island) to obtain a scholarship for Mr. Schonhardt, thereby making it possible for him to finish his studies, which have been begun so very auspiciously in Paris. It would not only be an encouragement to him, but indispensable and necessary for the continuing of his lessons which I am giving and will continue to give Mr. Schonhardt without any remuneration whatever.

With highest consideration, believe me, dear Miss Smedley,

Yours, most truly,

ERNEST DUBOIS,  
15 Rue Monave, Paris.

MISS SMEDLEY,  
Founder and Director-General of the American National Institute, Paris, France.

AMERICAN ART ASSOCIATION OF PARIS,  
October 11, 1902.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Fortunately I was one of the many American students that spent an enjoyable evening last Saturday. I am taking a regular painters' course at the Julian Academie in preparation for book illustration. Am heartily in accord with your good undertaking and desire to do all I can to advance it.

Yours, respectfully,

E. EARLE HOGEBOOM.

ON BOARD STEAMSHIP PATRICIA,  
November 18, 1903.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: On leaving Paris I wish to thank you again for your great kindness and the many advantages you were instrumental in surrounding me with. So many girls go to Paris without any kind of knowledge of the language, where or how to secure the advantages they are seeking, lose valuable time and money, and too often return home without accomplishing anything of note. The American National Institute will be the means of saving time, money, and strength, and redound to the glory of our country.

Yours, most respectfully,

MARY WILSON.

[Arthur Teed, Carrie B. French, A. L. Hockinghull, C. L. Weed, L. S. Kiefer, Henrietta Iana Monod, Henri Monod, Mary S. Healey, Helen Stanley, Aletia d'Avenus Salvador, Geogianni Weldon, Augusta Glose, Lende W. Glose, Caroline A. Sower, Collin Armstrong, Countess Batoska, Hellen A. Peabody, William C. Oats, Adeline F. Howley, M. A. Johnstone, Louis Cryrany, Martha E. Herrick, Mrs. George Smith, Mrs. Cheque Harrison, Mr. Andress, director; Mr. C. Powell, manager; L. H. Kauffman, Charles Pearson Shaw, Isabela King.]

ST. PAUL, August 5, 1903.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY: I beg leave to express the hope that you are meeting with success in your work for the establishment in Paris of an "American National Institute." The building up of this "institute" I consider to be a work most worthy of the patronage of intelligent Americans and of the active cooperation of our National Government.

Students of art will continue in large numbers to go to Paris, where such wondrous facilities are offered, to obtain the information and training to which they aspire. Left to themselves they are scattered through the French metropolis without friends to guide or direct them; your institution would be a center to which students could go and where counsel would be given to them.

It is to the great advantage of America that American youths devote themselves to art and to be duly prepared to excel in it. America has come to that stage that it can not afford to be behind European nations in advanced culture. Our National Government should in one way or another take this matter into its hands, and I earnestly hope that the recognition which you seek from it for your work will be accorded to it at an early date.

Knowing as I do Paris, and knowing as I do the condition of American students in that city, I feel the deepest interest in your work.

Respectfully,

JOHN IRELAND,  
Archbishop of St. Paul, Minn.

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC,  
*Boston, Mass., December 17, 1902.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: We feel deeply interested in the American National Institute in Paris, France, of which you are the founder and director-general. We are sure you have already accomplished a grand and noble work among the American students in that city, and we most sincerely hope that Congress will recognize this, and the necessity of assuring its permanency, by granting a liberal sum of money for the erection of a fine building, with an endowment fund for many scholarships.

Wishing you all success, we remain,

Yours, very truly,

G. H. CHADWICK,  
*Musical Director.*

CHARLES P. GARDINER,  
*President of the Board of Trustees.*

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Director-General American National Institute.*

PARIS, 157 RUE DE LA POMPE,  
*January 1, 1902.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I can not let you leave for that dear country we both call "home," especially when I consider the mission on which you are bent, without sending you my "godspeed."

May God not only speed you on your journey by land and by sea, but may He above all things speed you in your efforts to bring home with convincing force to the Government of our great land the realization of the pressing need of their hearty and ungrudging support for the great enterprise which your untiring energies of mind and body, inspired by that greatest of all ideals—a love of country—have finally, after eight long years of effort, brought into being. The American nation needs the American National Institute. It needs it badly and it needs it now. It needs it for many reasons, but there is in my opinion one great, one supreme reason, why it needs it, and that is that only by and through such an institution as the American National Institute can our country in the broad sense retain as true Americans the thousands of our young people of both sexes who annually flock to the Old World for inspiration and instruction in the professions of their choice.

Our advancement in our own country in all the arts moves on with marvelous rapidity, but we must still look to Europe, in the general sense at least, for the best methods of instruction in the arts. The genius of our land in all branches of art, as in everything, is vigorous, unquenchable, and overflowing. It must choose its own outlets and it must have its own way. No purely private enterprise at home or abroad, no matter how well its aims, can suffice for it. It is a part—a vital part—of the life of our people, and its needs can only be adequately dealt with by the father of our people.

Let our Government but give give its support to the American National Institute, and by that only does it become possible for thousands of enthusiastic and aspiring young American souls to be placed in immediate and direct contact with the great masters of art, science, and literature in the Old World; but these selfsame young countrymen and women of ours will also at the same time be afforded that moral support and protection which they most urgently need while far from home and friends, and which it is the duty of those who care to give them, while the spirit of patriotism which will also be inculcated in a national institute such as yours is designed to be while the needs of the individual are being supplied are incalculable, for what could forge so strongly a link between our young students in a foreign land and their own dear country as an American National Institute, representing, as it would, in the great city of our sister Republic the power, dignity, and beneficence of the American Government? And so again I say God speed you in your truly national work.

Most respectfully, yours,

GERTRUDE GRISWOLD.

(First prize of the Paris Conservatory, 1880.)

31 WELLINGTON STREET,  
Toronto, Canada, March 21, 1901.

MY DEAR MADAM SMEDLEY: Mrs. Ellis and self wish to thank you for the many kind favors you have shown our dear sister, Miss Florence G. Bell. We feel that you are temporarily taking her mother's place. We can assure you it is very comforting for us to know she has found in you a veritable godmother. Our appreciation of your kindness is such that you must always consider us as your very good friends, and should Canadian reference ever be of service to you or the institute you may with confidence use the writer, who will always do the American National Institute ample justice, and who is well acquainted in nearly all sections of the Dominion of Canada.

Again thanking you, we are always at your service.

Yours, very truly,

Mr. and Mrs. CHARLES S. ELLIS.

50 AVENUE D'ÉNA,  
Paris, December 9, 1900.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,

*Founder and Director-General of the American National Institute.*

(Mr. Henri von Daur, Secretary-General.)

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: With a feeling of gratitude I write sending my personal thanks to you who have done so much for the American student life in Paris. Some of us must become the American savant of to-morrow—your sheaves.

Oh, that we all might know and feel the pain, the labor, cost, the fortitude a masterpiece calls forth—yea, the sacrifice—and yours in its completion is indeed a masterpiece. Though not a magnificent piece of statuary, not a grand and imposing temple, no astonishing canvas, no thrilling musical composition, nor a poem that shall better or move thousands to tears, nor is it a profound scientific research, yet your work is all of these, for as the sculptor guides his chisel, the architect his pencil, the painter his brush, the musician his fingers or voice or pen, as the poet or as the scientist studies his problem and apparatus, you have studied and are now guiding American students.

Your masterpiece has been a tremendous undertaking. I bow in recognition and beg you to accept my grateful homage, and as I, so will all the American people when they realize what you have done for us as a nation.

You have filled a long-felt want, and with the fulfilling or realization of which we never dared hope for, much less expect.

The cry of the American student has ever been, "When will our people awaken?" for until now the great French masters have been our only succor, and they have been the only ones on whose kindness we could rely.

Thanks to Mr. von Daur, who succeeded in interesting these masters for our good.

How different and how much easier for the student who comes to Paris knowing he is capable of meeting and knowing these men from the poor student that worked and sweat, and thought that he might but have even an interview with one of these men, and when he finally was favored how he had all the hard upward climb against others, against the language, with no one to help him, no one that could speak a kind word for him. I, yes I, of all the American boys know best what Mr. von Daur has done for us, and I thank him.

Finally, I can but say for all and to all: Merci—thanks; and with regard to the students of Paris, I am ever at your service, with pleasure.

Yours,

HENRI SCHOENHARDT.

(Three years at the preliminary institute.)

PARIS, December 5, 1901.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: After being a pupil and resident of the preliminary house of the American National Institute I can fully appreciate the great advantage the institution will be to the young people of America.

The object and aims of this great work are so far-reaching that it demands the cooperation of every intelligent person.

While we all anxiously await the result of your visit to Washington, our hopes are founded upon our knowledge of the wonderful keen-sightedness of the American nation to recognize and grasp its opportunities.

That this is a great work, dear Miss Smedley, no one can possibly deny, the fulfillment of which will have an immense effect in making and helping forward the progress of a great nation.

My sincerest wishes are with you in your undertaking, and I am only sorry that the time has come for me to sever my connection as pupil of the institution.

My interest will always be with it and for it and its work.

Very sincerely yours,

A. JULIET HOWSON.

JANUARY, 1900.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: \* \* \* How few of those sitting at home near comfortable fires, in the joys of their families, know of what those abroad have to bear. It is going to make more difference to our country how they treat their students than how they treat their soldiers. Soldiers they can always draw, but not brains. Do any of our men at home realize our sacrifices—what they are worth to the nation? Is there no patriotism without the uniform? Then give us the institute and we will wear the uniform, but it is not the cloth that makes the soldier. All famous battles have been fought in shirt sleeves, and that is our uniform to-day, and worthy of America and the institute, which we must have.

Please remember while away from us that you have all our good wishes and sympathy and prayers for the commendation and guidance of Him above.

Yours,

HENRI SCHOENHARDT,  
*Student of the Preliminary House.*

GOSHEN, IND., January 19, 1904.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: It was my purpose to write you immediately upon my return to Chicago, assuring you of my approval of your great work in trying to establish an American National Institute in Paris. I feel quite certain that, could each of our United States Senators and Congressmen travel a season in Europe, not one of them would oppose your efforts, but would give it enthusiastic support. I wish it were possible for me to be in Washington pending the hearing of your bill, but it is quite out of the question. Call on Hons. Charles B. Landis and A. L. Brick, both from Indiana and friends of mine. Tell them that I trust they can see their way clear to, in their position as Congressmen, aid and assist you in your very great work.

Wishing you every success, I beg to remain,

Most respectfully,

E. M. Baker,  
*465 South Canal Street, Chicago, Ill.*

Mr. McKINLEY,

*President of the United States:*

Mr. President, pardon me. I speak from an experience of twenty years spent in trying to awaken an interest in art in the public schools of America. I came over here nearly two years ago, worn out with the struggle, but the cry of the hungry followed me to Florence, and I held a summer class there last year. \* \* \* A residence of ten months in Italy convinced me, however, that that was not the place for such a work. I came to Paris last March, and was not here ten days before I was sure this was the center I was looking for. Then I found Miss Smedley, and discovered that the plans of the American National Institute were large enough to includemine—indeed, they are more advanced and outreaching than I had dreamed of.

I have other letters of the same import.

I would also like to read you a clipping from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch entitled "Money in art," also the many letters and signatures of the great masters who have given to their support.

JOSEPHINE LOCK,  
*Boston Conservatory of Music.*  
W. THEODORE PETERS.  
MRS. M. E. GIGNOUR.  
MAURICE LOUIS CHAMAUNAD.

CHICAGO, *February 7, 1901.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: In every letter received from Florence she has never failed to speak of your invariable kindness to her in every way. You may rest assured it is fully appreciated by myself and family. You certainly have been a good friend to her, and, knowing this, we feel better satisfied to have her remain longer than she anticipated. I presume May will be her last month with you. We are all very anxious to see her once more, as she has practically been away from home two years.

Thanking you again, also your sister, for all the kindnesses she has received at your hands, also for the scholarship given her by you, and for the many cultured and refined people she has been introduced to by you, with the kindest wishes for yourself and sister, believe me,

Most sincerely, your friend,

M. A. BELL.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., *February 10, 1902.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Thank you very much for the opportunity given me to examine the numerous letters and documents testifying so eloquently to the beneficence of your Paris enterprise. It is most interesting to learn the view of those who have had a chance for personal investigation of the institute and know so much better, of course, than I the nature of what you are trying to accomplish.

Let me confess just here that for some years I was a complete skeptic concerning it. The scheme seemed to me like many of the fine theories, impracticable and chimerical. I even questioned the necessity for any such undertaking, but there is now no doubt left in my mind concerning its desirability, even need, and my conversation with others interested in education who have personally looked over the ground confirms my belief.

That you may succeed abundantly is the wish of,

Cordially, yours,

CAROLINE B. LE ROW.

(For thirty years in public school.)

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE,  
*Washington, D. C., May 19, 1902.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have been very much interested in your scheme for establishing in Paris an institute for the assistance of American students. I have heard it spoken of mainly with reference to those who go abroad for the purpose of studying art.

I hope that in your consideration of students you will not neglect those who visit Paris for the purpose of scientific instruction. There are many courses in the College de France which could be made available for Americans were they only better known. The generous cosmopolitan hospitality of French teachers is famous; indeed, it is a tradition among them ever since the days of Abelard. The Pasteur Institute has already had much effect in shaping the knowledge of infective diseases among American students and would gladly do more. There is also much hospital and laboratory work that is available for the training of foreigners.

All this should be taken in hand by the American Institute, as well as subjects relating to art. Many students go abroad each year for the purposes of study or of inspection of foreign work. They usually have an imperfect knowledge of French and have but a hazy idea of the advantages and resources of Paris. Consequently, a great deal of their time and money is wasted or, indeed, worse than wasted, for they too often yield themselves to the frivolities of the great city and return home without having accomplished any serious work. Had they been properly guided at the outset this would have been avoided. This, I take it, is what you desire to effect with the American Institute.

The Rockefeller Pathological Institute and the Carnegie Institution have in view the sending of students abroad for instruction, and it would seem eminently proper for an American Institute at Paris to assist and cooperate with these bodies.

Very truly, yours,

FRANK BAKER.



[The American National Institute, 1902.]

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I send you a pen talk in verse that tells the story of desire from my point of view, for I regard the proposed memorial (the American National Institute) an artistic expression of national gratitude and reciprocity for the alliance of 1781. With best wishes and kindest regards for the complete success of your work.

Sincerely,

FLORA ADAMS DARLING.

*Verses suggested at the unveiling of the Rochambeau monument, reviving memories of our French allies.*

1781-1902.

To-day we welcome sons of France  
Guests of a nation jointly won;  
Under two flags we meet again  
And now, as then, to stand as one.  
When Lafayette and Rochambeau  
With men and gold came in our need  
To make the hearts of patriots strong,  
As allied friends in word and deed,  
Faith led France to espouse our cause,  
Before the dawn of peace had come,  
In time of want, in time of doubt,  
To daunt the heart of Washington.

Turn back the page of history  
To seventeen hundred eighty-one,  
To men who fought our fight to win,  
Our French allies, at old Yorktown;  
Now, in the noonday of our might,  
We hail with pride the allies kin,  
The sons of France, the men of war,  
Who helped our patriot sires to win.

Again, alliance is our theme,  
We hear the echo o'er the sea,  
To voice the glories of the past,  
To sing the song of victory!  
Let a memorial be raised  
In sunny France to aid our own;  
In honor of our French allies,  
A tribute to our Washington.  
Let us erect a school of art,  
A national Institute of fame,  
A monument to our progress  
And glories won in our own name.  
A gift of land France now donates,  
A site in Paris of renown,  
The States accept with many thanks  
And pledge the keystone arch to crown;  
Then in one voice let us respond,  
Let Congress meet the founder's plan,  
Through scholarships on merit based  
To aid art students' just demand;  
Let sons of noble sires unite  
To strike the keynote of success,  
Let daughters weave a laurel wreath  
To crown the gifts of God's bequest.

Now, to the founder friend Godspeed,  
The initial work becomes a law,  
Congress accepts the gift from France,  
A deed of land without a flaw;  
The national Institute—to rise  
Amid environments of art  
To foster talent of our home,  
And may each State do noble part,  
Take back to our old friends of France  
A hope fulfilled in God's own way,  
A monument to allied art  
To mark the march of destiny.

TO MISS SMEDLEY.

—FLORA ADAMS DARLING, A. M.

DECEMBER 31, 1903.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: If your work in behalf of American art in France does nothing else than systematize the affairs of our American students you will have accomplished a great deal of good. Therefore no practical American should criticise the project adversely, and all who have studied in Europe will, I am sure, give you every encouragement. Personally I would hope that eventually the work might be established on the broadest personal lines, including science as well as art. However far it is destined to go, you have my best wishes for its success.

Sincerely,

CAREY CULBERTSON, M. D.,  
Chicago, Ill.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
Washington, D. C.

126 EAST PLATTE AVENUE,  
Colorado Springs, January 14, 1904.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: My time was so short in New York with Mrs. Davis it was impossible to give myself the pleasure I so hoped to enjoy in seeing you.

I can not tell you what an interest I took in all you told us about having a national institute in Paris for American students. Anyone who has ever seen the deplorable condition of young Americans who go abroad in hope of benefiting by the numberless advantages only to be found there can realize what it would mean to the students themselves. As for America herself, one can not begin to count the harvests she would reap in a few years. To the students a national institute in any city abroad, and especially in Paris, would mean the greatest and most needful protection, both morally and mentally. They would lose no time nor money in floundering about, sometimes for months, before they find the right companions and teachers. To America, to begin with, it would mean having some real claim on the students, so that in finishing their studies in Paris or elsewhere their first thought would be to return to their native country and give to it what now is given every year to almost any other country but our own. To go into foreign galleries and see both pictures and sculpture, the work of American artists (and work that any nation would be proud of), to see it there and realize it is there only because the artists find acknowledgment and appreciation more in almost any other place than at home, is, to say the least, most exasperating. All the more so because we all know, with a few efforts, we could make American students just as proud and willing to give their best to their own country as Frenchmen are to theirs.

If we could recall the talent that rightly belongs to us and give it the place that is its due in any country, a great deal of this going abroad by moneyed Americans in quest of art and music and many other things to be found there, and could also be found to a great extent at home, if only we, as a people, would show things at home. Starting a national institute in Paris would be the very best way to begin this great change in the present condition of affairs, and I hope with all my heart you will succeed in bringing this about. It is a thing in which I take the greatest interest, and will do anything in my limited power to encourage and help.

Hoping you will in the very near future realize what now you are striving so valiantly to obtain, believe me,

Yours, most sincerely,

JANE ROBINSON.

THE WESTMINSTER,  
Boston, Mass., August 6.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I talked a great deal about the institute to some people on the steamer, and everyone thinks it such a wonderful work and that you are such a wonderful woman. It is new to so many people; but they take the greatest interest in it and think there can only possibly be one result, and that is that the building is a certainty.

People have only to know about this work to realize how much it means for America and Americans. It is really a great advantage to those who are so favored as to be in the institute even now, and what would it be when you are able to carry out fully your ideas for the future of the institute. You were all so kind to me and I thoroughly appreciate all the institute did for me. With such dear people as you, the countless, and count, what can you not do? For no sane person could refuse you anything. I am sure you will get your appropriation. You will soon, if you have not already, have a letter from Miss Charlotte Lynn. She is the young lady of whom I wrote to Mrs. Stanley P. Clemens. Mrs. Clemens is away from Boston, but she wrote me that Miss Lynn would write you immediately. Dear Miss Smedley,

when you come to Boston, Doctor and I want you to come to the Westminster as our guest. Be sure and write me before you leave Paris and you must come to Boston. My love to your dear sister and remembrance to the count and Mrs. Muller.

Yours, with gratitude and affection,

ETTA EDWARDS.

I will write again when I can write a decent letter.

E. E.

The necessity for American genius alienating itself from home in search of those art opportunities which are only to be found in the Old World has brought upward of 3,000 young people to Paris to study and prepare for their life occupation.

I plead that the home Government owes some duty to these temporary exiles whose labors eventually must increase the wealth of our country.

The history of art in France, England, and Germany teaches that money spent by these Governments for art purposes in less than twenty years has trebled its value to the nation. Surely an American investment will be no exception.

We are grateful to you for the recognition given to the work of the institute in Document 398 and also for the report of the Secretary of State concerning the erection of a permanent building. Knowing as I do the conditions of student life in Europe, I am convinced that an international project is the only solution. While its delay is unfortunate, the cause remains uninjured. We only look to you the more confidently, that with that large sagacity which has characterized your Administration you will carry the measure successfully through the next session of Congress.

From the standpoint of our industrial and social relations the work is an economic necessity and its location is wisely chosen, for Paris is not only the art but the intellectual center of the modern world.

The appreciation of France is shown in her concession of ground free of taxation, in donations of pictures, in the reduction of tuition fees, in free lecture courses, and in a generous hospitality toward science, letters, and the arts utterly unknown in America—a hospitality that does not hesitate to offer its best free of charge to the humblest foreigner provided he has the ability to appreciate it.

The work done at 50 Avenue d'Iena since last October is its own demonstration. The health, morals, time, and money of students have been saved through being put in immediate connection with the right institutions and authorities. Three students have already enjoyed the benefit of free scholarships.

Mr. President, pardon me, I speak from an experience of twenty years spent in trying to awaken an interest in art in the public schools of America. I came over here nearly two years ago worn-out with the struggle, but the cry of the hungry followed me to Florence and I held a summer class there last year. Among those in attendance was Miss Mary McDonald, of New York City.

A residence of ten months in Italy convinced me, however, that that was not the place for such a work. I came to Paris last March and was not here ten days before I was sure this was the center I was looking for. Then I found Miss Smedley and discovered that the plans of the American National Institute were large enough to include mine—indeed, they are more advanced and outreaching than I had dreamed of.

Very respectfully, yours,

JOSEPHINE C. LOCKE,

*Supervisor of Drawing, Chicago Public Schools.*

LYCEUM THEATER, March 30, 1898.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY.

DEAR MADAM: Before I had the pleasure of hearing from your own lips an account of the efforts you are making to interest lovers of art in your plans to make art study abroad available to American students, I had heard a great deal on the subject from my daughter, Mrs. Charles H. Riegel.

From my association with the American Academy of Dramatic Arts I am familiar with the temptations and temperament of ordinary art students, and am in complete sympathy with your conviction that a crying need exists for such an American National Institute as you are laboring to establish; nay, more, I am convinced that no one who, having the means yet lacks the will to assist in such an enterprise, can be a true lover of art.

I am, dear madam, very truly,

FRED WILLIAMS.

PARIS, February, 1900.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: The Prix de Paris! A noble thought to be cast in imperishable marble! An American National Institute on the banks of the Seine, whose halls will be written over with the new names of glory! Under the porticoes of this academy will gather future knights of science, art, and literature. The poet will find his place. The future poet must be omniscient if he wishes to console the world's pain.

With dutiful and true regard,

WILLIAM THEODORE PETERS.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: As I am very much interested in the noble work you have been so earnestly promoting, will you kindly forward me a copy of letters from circular of information, pages 15, 20-22, 30, etc., regarding the same, as referred to in *Musical Courier* of July 7.

Sincerely, yours,

MARRINER FLOYD,  
*President Boston Conservatory of Music.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: It is with pleasure that I extend to you the courtesy of an honorary membership in our council of the Boston Conservatory of Music, in recognition of the great work you are doing for the art we love so well.

Respectfully, yours,

MARRINER FLOYD, *President.*

WEDNESDAY, March 13, 1901.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am sorry that I have not been able to pay you what I owe you as yet, but I hope to be able soon, as I have written to all of my friends for money. I have received only enough money (since I left your place) to live on. My own money is all gone, and my father has had business troubles and can not send me much.

If I can not raise enough money to pay you with while I am over here, I will send it from America. I am going back as soon as possible (if I can get back) and go to work at my old occupation, and as I can make money at that I will be able to forward you the amount very soon.

I hope that you will believe me when I state that I intend to pay you as soon as possible. I will have to work my way back home and will be glad if I can get the chance to do that even, as I am very much run down in health and entirely sick of this trip. My next attempt at a foreign education will be when I have a bank account of my own.

I hope that you are in good health and are having success in your work.

Yours, sincerely,

P. S.—Please give my best regards to Mr. and Mrs. von Daur.

H. E. B.

H. E. B.

The idea of an institute for American girl students in Paris is one that has always greatly interested me, and I cordially indorse this effort to put it into execution.

KATHARINE DE FOREST.

I thoroughly approve of this much-needed institution in France, and from an experience of many years' residence in Paris realize this great need of a well-organized home for self-supporting women.

EFFIE MACKENZIE EVANS,  
49 Avenue de l'Opéra, Paris.

I very heartily commend the purpose of this undertaking and look confidently to its successful accomplishment.

GEO. S. MALORY,  
*Editor of The Churchman, New York City.*

I have read many times of the crowded quarters of the girl students in that great city, and will be ready to lend a hand to the work when you visit our coast. If you come to London next month I should be so glad to know you better and learn of your great life work.

Our London address is:

Mrs. Wm. S. EDWARDS,  
Care of S. K. Mfg. Co., Ltd.,  
Broad Street House, London.

PARIS, October 27, 1896.

I am delighted to see the success Miss Smedley has met with in this most useful work. I appreciate what this work means to America.

I shall be most happy to contribute a small picture, not to be sold except at price fixed by the artist. Picture to be delivered within six months from this date.

JULIUS STEWART.

PARIS, October 28, 1896.

It will give me pleasure to contribute a small picture to the good cause in which Miss Smedley has interested us all. The picture, like others, will be delivered in six months, and to be held at a price fixed by the painter.

E. L. WEEKS.

Je considère l'entreprise de Miss Smedley comme une grande œuvre et comme une nécessité de notre siècle.

CHAS. FRANK HOFFMANN, D. D., LL. D., D. C. L.,  
31 West Seventy-second Street, New York.

MARDI DE PÂQUES, 1895.

Je suis de tout cœur pour la réussite de ce grand projet.

J. HOLLMAN.

Je suis trop heureux d'apporter mon modeste concours à cette grande œuvre et j'inscris mon nom de grand cœur.

LAURENT, *De l'Opéra*.

53 WEST NINETY-SECOND STREET,  
New York, January 29, 1905.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Truly a grand idea "an American National Institute" in the city of art and beauty. Let us hope that this (your) idea may soon be carried out for the benefit of the American student, as well as for the benefit of the American nation.

If the United States Government represents the people there ought to be as little delay as possible to bring about a successful issue.

Believe me, dear Miss Smedley,

Yours, very sincerely,

BERN. BOEKELMAN.

64 WEST NINETY-EIGHTH, STREET,  
New York, January 19, 1902.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: No doubt you have forgotten me, but my wife and myself often think and speak of you. A young lady leaving for Paris to study was advised to call and see me for the address of a good school where she could study voice and repertoire, and I sent her to you. I am thinking very seriously of trying to make my debut in opera at the Opera Comique and write to ask if you can give me any advice on the subject. I realize to make a success in opera I will have to get my "programme" in Europe, and to me Paris is the only place. I would come

equipped with the language and the operas. What I want is the experience. I suppose you remember my voice and I can honestly say I feel it improves all the time.

Remembering that you were personally acquainted with Senator Chauncey Depew, and now that the Senator has just been married he will entertain lavishly at the capital, and in those entertainments vocalists are generally engaged. Thinking a letter from you saying I had sung at the preliminary institute to which he had been invited, feel sure it would do much good. I am also trying to sing for society in New York this winter and if you can help me reach any of the musical people, same will be greatly appreciated, and perhaps some day I can reciprocate.

I suppose your school is now all you desire and sailing in smooth waters. My wife and self wish to be kindly remembered to your sister and brother-in-law. With kind wishes to you from my wife and self.

I remain, very sincerely,

CLIFFORD ALEXANDER WILEY.

TORONTO, CANADA,  
March 21, 1901.

MY DEAR MADAM SMEDLEY: Mrs. Ellis and self wish to thank you for the many kind favors you have shown our dear little sister, Miss Florence G. Bell; we feel that you are temporarily taking her mother's place. We can assure you it is very comforting for us to know that Florence is so comfortably placed and that she has found in you a veritable "Fairy godmother."

Our appreciation of your kindness is such that you must always consider us as your very good friends, and should Canadian reference ever be of service to you or your institute, you may with confidence use the writer, who will always do your institute ample justice, and who is well acquainted in nearly all sections of the Dominion of Canada.

Again sincerely thanking you for your kind motherly love so freely given to our dear little sister Florence, we are always at your service.

Yours, very truly,

Mr. and Mrs. CHARLES S. ELLIS.

CARNEGIE HALL, NEW YORK,  
February 1, 1905.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I can not express to you my admiration for the gigantic work which you have accomplished by establishing "An American National Institute" in Paris. My experience as a student abroad and a teacher for many years in the United States, proves to me how necessary such an institution as this is for the American student abroad, not only intellectually but morally.

Wishing you all the success in the world,

I am, very sincerely,

GIACOMO MINKOWSKI.

Mr. FRYE presented the following

**LIST OF NAMES AND LETTERS OF PERSONS SUPPORTING THE  
INCORPORATION OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT  
PARIS, FRANCE.**

JANUARY 27, 1904.—Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed.

Extracts from letters received by Miss Smedley indorsing the institution, introduced in the Senate by Senator Frye, 1904:

DIOCESAN HOUSE,  
29 Lafayette Place, New York, March 20, 1896.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: With a board of examiners composed of the president of the National Academy of Design, the president of the Architectural League, and other equally important persons to test the qualification of the person to be sent abroad

for study, such an enterprise as you have in mind for that purpose has, undoubtedly, advantages of considerable value.

Very truly, yours,

H. C. POTTER,  
*Bishop of New York.*

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH,  
*Washington, D. C., March 27, 1906.*

I hope and pray for the success of a project which means so much for our future as a nation.

D. J. STAFFORD.

MY DEAR MADAM: I have examined with much interest the rough draft of the project for the foundation of a National American Institute in Paris for the education of American students in music, in art, in literature, and the like. I have no doubt that such an institution as is proposed will be most useful and very serviceable indeed to many American students. The plan also commends itself to me as one likely to be successful in accomplishing the results aimed at. I hope you will be able to command the cooperation that is necessary to put the project upon its feet.

Yours, respectfully,

SETH LOW,  
*President Columbia College.*

1896.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Your plan for the establishment in Paris of an institute for American girls commands my hearty approval.

It will always be the ambition of our gifted students of art to perfect themselves in their studies through the generous provision which the French people have made for the encouragement of such talent. Our girls who go to Paris for that purpose should have all the considerate care and genial surroundings which it is possible to secure. This is not always easy to accomplish. Your institute therefore meets an absolute need. It is a breath of home in that beautiful city.

The fact that you have enlisted the cordial sympathy and support of so many men and women distinguished in character and position in Paris, is testimony both to the worthy character of your undertaking and their personal confidence and esteem for you. It would be strange indeed if there were not as many and as noble men and women in this country to give you equal countenance and support.

As to the invitation with which you honor me to take a place on your board of managers, you are aware that my residence is in Maine, but I shall be happy to cooperate with you according to my ability.

Yours, with highest esteem,

JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN,  
*General, U. S. Army, ex-Governor of Maine.*

I wish by this letter, which you can publish if you think it useful, to let all my American friends know that I give my moral support to your enterprise, and I hope they will help us for the sake of their young countrywomen.

I know, dear Miss Smedley, that since you began to work for the realization of this dream of yours and of Mrs. Walden Pell you have certainly put in practice the motto which our dear friend the duchess of Pomar has made her own, "Commit thy work to God," and in this same faith I will do all I can to help you.

EMILIE DE MORSIER,  
*Organizer and secretary-general of the Congress of women's work  
held at Paris, 1889, under the patronage of the French Government.*

True friend of my true and faithful friend, I approve with all my heart this idea of yours. The Prix de Paris will be a worthy mate to the Prix de Rome.

ISABELLE BOGELOT,  
*Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur, membre honoraire du Comité.*

Paris, 1895.

You have done me the honor to explain to me your plan of founding an establishment for American girls who come to Paris for the purpose of studying art. To insure its success the generous heart and the practical sense are required, and both my friends and myself are entirely at your disposal for anything which could help you in your work.

The sixth ward of Paris is too proud to possess on its territory the School of Arts, and Ecole des Arts Décoratifs, to remain indifferent to the studies which you intend to favor. Will you allow me then, in the name of Mr. Paul Colin, painter, chevalier de la Légion d'honneur, subdirector of the Ecole des Arts Décoratifs, inspector, etc., and my former colleague, 2, quai Malaquais, and in the name of Mr. Ferdinand Chaigneau, also painter and engraver, Cité des Fleurs, and both of whom highly approve of your idea, which I explained to them, as well as in my own, to thank you for having kindly associated us in your work.

Respectfully,

F. HERBET, LL. D.

*Lawyer at the court of appeals, membre du Comité.*

COLUMBIA COLLEGE,  
MADISON AVENUE AND FORTY-NINTH STREET,  
New York City, April 9, 1895.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have looked over your scheme for providing in Paris a place where American young women can live and pursue to advantage their professional studies. The end in view seems a most serviceable one, and the scheme itself, so far as the details have been worked out, seems to be admirably adapted to the conditions. If I can serve you in any way I shall be glad to do so, though these things are quite outside the time of my own activities.

Yours, very sincerely,

WILLIAM R. WARR.

NEW YORK, November 12, 1894.

Hitherto I have invariably opposed the idea of young girls going abroad to study art excepting under the care of a matron. But the expense connected with such an undertaking could be afforded only by a very few.

Now the American National Institute will reduce the outlay to a minimum. A motherly and intelligent oversight will guard and guide the young ladies in their respective studies. Such a privilege is of inestimable value, and must be quickly appreciated by every American parent.

ANGE-ALBERT PATTOU.

Paris, January 16, 1895.

MADemoisELLE: You have done me the honor to associate my name with the names of those Frenchmen whose advice and sympathy you wished to ask in behalf of the work which it has been your generous idea to found in Paris.

It is with great pleasure that, having heard the exposure of your plan, I add my signature to those of my illustrious compatriots who had desired to give you a testimonial of their approval.

I will not let you start for America without renewing to you the expression of my best wishes for the success of your enterprise. Without any doubt its success will depend on the manner in which it will be conducted. Much activity, zeal, and prudence will be required. But if those who will superintend its organization and the working of it are not deficient in those essentially American qualities, one is entitled to hope that through it great benefit will result to both your country and ours.

To offer to American girls, desirous of studying art, science, or literature in France, a home both comfortable and safe, which, for the smallest price possible, will be to them a center of reunion, provided with the necessary resources, a shelter from solitude, loneliness, and the many dangers to which a large, strange city would expose them, and in which, without losing any of their individual liberty, they will find the best indications and encouragements; surely this is creating a most useful work for your country. It is creating also a useful and honorable one for mine, in helping to develop between the two great Republics the connections of every kind that already subsist between them. I, consequently, can not do otherwise than wish sincerely for its full realization, and I beg to renew to you, Mademoiselle, the expression of my most respectful sentiment.

FREDERIC PASSY, O.,

*Membre de l'Institut, membre honoraire du Comité.*



NEW YORK, February 17, 1896.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I write to renew to you the assurance of my warm approval of the enterprise you have in hand for the establishment of an art institute in Paris, which shall place the great advantage of art culture in all the prominent branches of art within the reach of the young women of America who desire such assistance.

I am a firm believer in the great and substantial advantages which are to be derived from music, painting, and from all artistic expressions of the beautiful; nor do I limit the advantages to be derived from these sources as merely pleasurable emotions. They become gradually assimilated with civilization itself, and a people gifted in art and fond of its varied forms of expression gains not only in refinement but also in power, in material wealth, and in attainment of everything that is of benefit to the human race.

On the terms in your circular you may enroll me as a subscriber for \$100.

E. ELLERY ANDERSON.

88 RUE JOUFFROY,  
Paris, November, 1896.

DEAR MADAM: I approve heartily of the American Institute and believe it will overcome the difficulties which beset student life in Paris.

On my part, I propose to give lessons at a reduced price (known to the executive committee) to two young ladies coming from the institute and fulfilling the conditions which I think indispensable for a successful career:

1. They must not be under 18 years of age nor over 22.
  2. They must have a good constitution, healthy lungs, and unspoiled voices.
  3. They must be prepared to remain at their studies at least two years for concert and teaching, and three years to be fit for opera.
  4. They must know French, Italian, or German, besides their own language.
  5. They must know general history, as well as the history of music.
  6. They must also play the piano and read music.
  7. For an operatic career a good stage figure and a first-rate voice are indispensable.
- Thus, with a good foundation laid in America, students coming to Paris can pursue their finishing course with great advantage under the guidance of the institute, and our mutual work will have the result we all wish for.

Wishing you a complete success in your national and humane undertaking,

I remain, dear madam, sincerely, yours,

MATHILDE MARCHESI.

1896.

Miss Helen Cooke will be pleased to do anything in her power in connection with Wellesly College to assist Miss Smedley in her work.

NEW YORK CITY, 1896.

I am in hearty support of the project of the American National Institute of Paris, and will give a concert for its benefit.

ANTON SEIDL.

OCTOBER 1, 1895.

It will give me great pleasure to assist in any way possible toward promoting an institute of such undoubted worth as the proposed American Institute of Paris.

WALTER DAMBOSCH.

Am proud to follow such illustrious examples. Will certainly have much pleasure in giving a concert for the benefit of the institution at a date mutually agreeable.

Faithfully and sincerely, yours,

ALBERT GÉRARD-THIERS.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY, Paris:

I wish you most heartily success in your grand enterprise, and will give you a concert for a benefit.

J. HOLLMAN.

1895.

The fact that the music trades owe their being and draw their sustenance from professors and students of music makes the recent arrival from Paris of Miss Smedley, director and promoter of the institute for American students, a matter of especial interest.—*Music Trades*.

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25 WEST SIXTY-EIGHTH STREET,  
New York City, February 25, 1895.

The plan suggested by Miss Smedley of assisting art students in Paris, providing not only for their advancement in art studies, but for proper institute accommodations and influences, must meet the approval of everyone. With a good organization and an accomplished executive leader the work must be successful.

HENRY G. MARQUAND.

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NEW YORK.

I appreciate how greatly this is needed by American students sufficiently advanced to avail themselves of the wonderful advantages and artistic atmosphere which renders Paris such a world-renowned center of culture. Wishing you full success,

I remain, yours, sincerely,

S. D. DOREMUS.

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As understood by me, Miss Smedley's plan for an institution for art students in Paris seems to be a most excellent one and worthy of the hearty support of all.

HORACE W. ROBBINS, N. A.,  
157 East Sixtieth Street, New York.

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NEW YORK CITY, 1895.

I believe in this so heartily that I am going to take a share in the stock, and I will use my influence and interest in Paris this winter as well as at home.

HELENA DE KAY GILDER.

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I very heartily indorse this project, and hope it will be pushed to completion. I know of no better work in the interest of humanity and art. You may enroll me for \$100.

RICHARD WATSON GILDER.

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Je m'associe bien volontiers à l'œuvre de l'Institut National Américain et j'applaudis de grand cœur aux efforts artistiques des fondateurs.

TH. DUBOIS, O.,  
*Membre de l'Institut, Directeur du Conservatoire,*  
*Membre honoraire du Comité du Conseil de l'Institut National Américain.*

PARIS, 7 novembre 1896.

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L'idée que vous avez eue est excellente et je ne puis que faire des vœux pour le développement et le succès de votre œuvre. Je vous adresse mes respectueux hommages.

ANTONY RATIER,  
*Sénateur, Membre du Comité.*

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To secure the health and progress which render success possible to the student of singing the accomplishment of this work is absolutely indispensable.

BLANCHE SMEDLEY VON DAUR,  
New York.

PARIS, 1896.

Everything which concerns the welfare, physical, intellectual, and moral, of American art students in Paris interests me deeply; especially do I sympathize with the young girls and women in the peculiar difficulties they have to encounter.

Our dear Mrs. Pell, whom we so love and revere, has joined you in the important enterprise you have undertaken in behalf of young American ladies studying in Paris, aided by the endowments you will secure from benevolent rich persons at home. You will be instrumental in the development of a few students who, like Rosa Bonheur, will be a source of pride to their country; of many singers whose rich cultivated voices will win them fortune and fame; in all branches of art you will be useful to the few favored ones who are gifted with true genius.

You will also aid hundreds of brave, bright girls to fit themselves to be teachers of painting, sculpture, architecture, engraving, music, etc., in our schools all over America, and here, I believe, will be the true source of your influence for good.

Alas, in the arts "many are called and few are chosen." You will also be able to rescue from want and temptations myriads of mistaken ones who never can succeed in their studies. You will provide them with salutary counsel, with restraining influence, and with material aid. Tell our American girls with scanty means, with delicate health, not to come abroad rashly. Even money, strength, and courage are not sufficient to create artists; without heaven-bestowed faculties the best of training is insufficient.

With my best sympathy in your enterprise,

Yours, cordially,

ELIZABETH GARDINER.

To Miss Mathilde Smedley, founder American National Institute:

Toil on, fair lady, in your work of love,  
Leading earth's climbers to the heights above;  
And while with gentle hand you smooth the road,  
And lighten many a weary mortal's load,  
Remember that whoe'er, by word or deed,  
Cheers one aspiring spirit in its need,  
Or helps one struggling artist soul to rise,  
Lifts all mankind still nearer to the skies.

—LUCIUS PERRY HILLS.

ATLANTA, GA., May 3, 1897.

LONDON, February 20, 1897.

I think it a highly meritorious and excellent thing that an institution is being formed in Paris to teach music to all Americans who desire a thoroughly efficient musical education.

ADELINA (PATTI) NICOLINI.

The American National Institute has all my sympathy. I hope with all my heart that we shall soon see it erected in Paris.

CHRISTINE (née) NILSSON,  
Comtesse Casa di Miranda.

ART STUDENTS' LEAGUE OF NEW YORK,  
215 West Fifty-seventh Street, November 14, 1896.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
118 West Eighty-fourth street.

DEAR MADAM: The proposed American Art Institute at Paris, meets with our approval. The need of such an institution is manifest to those conversant with the conditions of student life in Paris.

We trust that you will be successful in this work, to which you have so unselfishly devoted yourself, and also hope that its foundation may be followed with the establishment of scholarships to aid deserving students who are so often unable to complete projected studies.

Yours, very truly,

GEO. W. BRECK,  
President Art Students' League.

L'Institut d'un Prix de Paris sera sans aucun doute féconde pour la grande République Américaine; elle sera en tout cas un grand honneur pour la France.

D. PUECH,  
Député de Paris.

Je m'associe de tout cœur à la bonne idée de créer à Paris un grand institut américain.

E. BARRIAS,  
Membre de l'institut, membre du jury du Prix de Paris.

J'applaudis de grand cœur au développement de l'Institut national américain, et je ne doute pas qu'il ne contribue à l'accroissement des relations entre les universités américaines et françaises pour le plus grand bien de la France et des Etats-Unis.

EMILE PICARD.

Heureux de s'associer par ses vœux les plus sincères à une œuvre qui honore les Etats-Unis et qui resserrera les liens entre les deux Républiques.

GEORGES PICOT.

*Secrétaire perpétuel de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

PARIS, le 25 juillet 1901.

Je souhaite de tout cœur que les liens qui unissent si étroitement déjà les deux grandes Républiques se ressèrent davantage, et je suis convaincu que la fondation d'un institut national américain à Paris y aiderait puissamment.

Je fais donc des vœux pour la réalisation de cette idée.

BELLAN,

*Conseiller municipal de Paris.*

PARIS, le 20 juillet 1901.

L'œuvre de l'Institut national américain offre les plus vifs intérêts; elle marque un lien d'union plus étroite entre les deux Républiques; elle affirme la solidité dans la collaboration au progrès de l'esprit humain; elle confirme la vitalité et le rayonnement du génie français.

JOHN LABUSQUIÈRE,

*Conseiller municipal de Paris, né en Louisiane et aimant toujours son pays natal.*

PARIS, le 18 septembre 1900.

Je forme les vœux les plus sincères pour le succès de l'Institut national américain, et je suis très heureux de m'associer aux efforts de ses fondateurs en mettant un de nos instruments à titre gracieux à la disposition des jeunes musiciens qui viendront compléter leurs études sous son patronage.

A. BLONDEL,

*Directeur de la maison Erard.*

PARIS, le 7 février 1901.

Je suis charmé comme "Nationaliste" de voir la vieille France ouvrir de plus en plus largement au monde ses trésors d'art et de pensée.

J'approuve donc absolument le projet de l'American National Institute.

JULES LEMAÎTRE,

*Membre de l'Académie française, membre du jury du Prix de Paris.*

Tous les vœux d'un homme dont les sentiments ne se sont jamais démentis pour les Américains et les Canadiens, pour les frères et les amis de l'autre côté de l'eau.

HERBETTE,

*Conseiller d'Etat.*

24 JANVIER 1901.

La ville de Paris devenant la Rome du Nouveau-Monde c'est toute la gloire antique passant par nos mains pour être la grandeur des peuples modernes et l'orgueil de la France éducatrice.

ARM. GRÉBAUVAL,

*Président du Conseil municipal de Paris.*

ST. PAUL, October 19, 1896.

MADAME: I beg leave to speak my word of approval in favor of the Home for American Women Students of Arts in Paris. Of the need of this home and of the many advantages to American women whose desire to study brings them to the French capital, there can be no doubt. The success of the home is already assured.

Those who have undertaken to organize it are persons of such well-known probity that no failure is possible with them. My best wishes will accompany their labors.

Respectfully,

JOHN IRELAND,  
*Archbishop of St. Paul.*

I have listened to Miss Smedley's explanation of her plan for the education and training of American girls in the city of Paris, France, and have examined recommendations of her method by some of the best men at home and abroad, and I think such a school as she has in her mind merits the support of every lover of art and morality.

THOMAS HUNTER,  
*President Normal College, New York City.*

MISS SMEDLEY.

DEAR MADAM: I have read the draft of your circular, and think it is very clear and to the point. On the understanding that the benefits are to be given to deserving students, selected by proper examination, I have no hesitation in indorsing your enterprise.

If you carry out your plan of paying for land and building, and rely on the income to meet the running expenses, it could hardly fail to succeed.

Very truly, yours,

HOWARD RUSSELL BUTLER, *President,*  
*135 West Forty-seventh Street.*

CAIRO, March 4, 1897

With my greatest sympathy for this noble and highly patriotic work.

C. BELANFONTE OSTBERY,  
*Consul-General, Stockholm.*

BROOKLYN, July 27, 1903.

This is a work that touches all the people of our nation.

J. H. LAMPORT.

I most heartily approve and applaud Miss Smedley's great undertaking, and contribute with much pleasure my bronze bust of the Abbé Liszt, modeled from life at the Ville d'Este for his eminence Prince Cardinal Hohenlohe.

M. EZEKIEL, *Sculptor.*

ROME, March 27, 1897.

Franklin Simons will be happy to contribute to the American National Institute a medallion likeness of Miss Smedley.

439 FIFTH AVENUE, November 17, 1896.

You will be pleased to learn that several of my friends in Paris and London talked to me this summer about your noble undertaking, and praised it most highly. I wanted to tell you this when you did me the honor of calling on me the other day, but forgot to tell you; and I have been thinking also about the many flattering letters and encouragements you have received from so many illustrious people; but allow me to advise you to ask the signature, with a word of encouragement, from the French ambassador.

An American institution of that kind, I shouldn't wonder, will be followed by a similar one from many a country. Rome is no longer the Mecca of art. It has long ago been Paris, and every one of us owes a great, a very great, debt to Paris. Therefore, we should all erect a temple and a laboratorium in Paris.

Please keep me posted with the successful development of your missionary work, and believe me your humblest but most devoted admirer.

Respectfully, yours,

HUBERT Vos.

The plan is indeed most worthy of hearty approval and support. I wish the boys also might find such sympathy, and perhaps some day it may be extended to them.

D. HUNTINGTON,  
*Ex-President National Academy, New York.*

PARIS, 1895.

Inclosed please find a clipping from the Herald. You see, my dear friend, your beautiful, noble work is being talked of in all directions, not only in our own country, but over all Europe, for which not a little credit is due the Herald.

The forming of an association which will be willing and ready to help (by its protection) those who are willing and anxious to help themselves, will do a great amount of good, and fill many, many hearts to overflowing with gratitude toward all those who have been instrumental in furthering your grand undertaking.

Many of our young American women are, as we all know, full of talents and ambition, talents which have often had to be unperfected from the impracticability of allowing a young, beautiful girl to come alone to Europe (to the land of perfect art) to finish the oftentimes wonderful gifts with which she has been endowed.

Now, my dear Miss Smedley, you are about to do away with many of the fears which must fill every mother's heart, no matter how much she may rely upon the moral strength of the dear child she bids "God speed," as she sends her with a mother's blessing and prayers across the great Atlantic to a strange land, often to struggle against allurements and temptations which are only too frequently held out to our young girls under the guise of assistance and advancement, but which, literally, would mean failure to their most cherished hopes of success.

That God may bless you and this great effort is the prayer and wish of your friend,

B. WEEKS.

NEW YORK.

To secure the health and progress which render success possible to the student of singing the accomplishment of this work is absolutely indispensable.

BLANCHE SMEDLEY VON DAUR.

DEAR MADAM: The proposed American Art Institute at Paris meets with our approval. The need of such an institution is manifest to those conversant with the conditions of student life in Paris.

We trust that you will be successful in this work, to which you have so unselfishly devoted yourself, and also hope that its foundation may be followed with the establishment of scholarships to aid deserving students who are so often unable to complete projected studies.

Yours, very truly,

GEO. W. BRECK,  
*President Art Students' League.*

[Boosey & Co., music publishers.]

NEW YORK.

DEAR MADAM: In reply to your favor addressed to Mr. Hollman, it gives me pleasure to grant him permission to play at the concert you are now arranging in aid of the National Institute, Paris, for American students.

Wishing you success, I am, dear madam,

Yours, truly,

GEORGE MAXWELL, *Manager.*

It is my belief that a properly managed and liberally conducted institute in Paris for American students who go there to study would be a thoroughly good thing, and fill a useful sphere.

Yours, sincerely,

CARROLL BECKWITH.

NEW YORK, 1896.

I cordially approve the proposition here formulated, to wit, that American students in Paris should have the largest amount of comfort and privilege consistent with moral security.

DAVID JAMES BURRELL,  
*Pastor of the Collegiate Church.*

PARIS, 1896.

I thank you for kindly letting me know something in detail of the projected institution. I quite feel with you that another "home" for American students here is not necessary, and I realize doubly that it is desirable that our young Americans interested in art should not come to Paris to study unless they possess an unusual talent, or the means to sustain themselves in the simplest way while here. Your suggestion of an examination in America and of a Prix de Paris, corresponding in a measure with the Prix de Rome, seems to me a very admirable one.

Yours, very truly,

JOHN B. MORGAN, D. D.,  
*Rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity.*

PARIS.

From every point of view I find your proposed enterprise grand and wonderful, and it is with great pleasure that I add my name to the list containing so many eminent names.

BAISSAC, *Official Int.*

58 WEST FIFTY-SEVENTH STREET,  
*New York, November 4, 1896.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: The provision for girl students in Paris of a building which shall be at once a school and a home seems to be a desirable thing. There will certainly be no lack of students, but those who are admitted should be such as have proved their capacity to profit by such exceptional advantages as Paris offers; in a word, it should be a school for advanced students. A great deal of good can be done by making the physical conditions easier than they have sometimes been to students in Paris; that is to say, if the scholars find good food and comfortably warmed and well-lighted rooms to live in, their work will be all the better for it. I am,

Yours, very sincerely,

EDWIN H. BLASHFIELD.

PARIS.

This institute recommends itself to every Franco-American; my heartiest wishes for its success.

HENRI VIGNAUD,  
*Secretary of the United States Embassy.*

PARIS, 1896.

I am charmed with your undertaking, and you have my heartiest wishes for a final success.

MOUNET-SULLY, *Actor.*

PARIS, 1896.

Situated as I am, I can not find or think of an undertaking more worthy than yours.

JULIETTE ADAMS,  
*Directrice de la Nouvelle-Revue.*



As one who is thoroughly conversant with the great need for this institution, I wish it every success.

A. D. TOWNSEND, *All Angels Church.*

It is with the greatest pleasure I seize the opportunity to congratulate you on your good success in securing the support of the American people both financially and morally in establishing your institute of arts and languages in the French capital, which, I hope, will benefit generations to come; and having among its patronesses such a famous person as my countrywoman, Mme. Christine Nilsson, I have no doubt but that it will be patronized by all who want to send their daughters to a "safe home," where they can achieve perfection in their studies.

Hoping that your ardent labor will attain the result it merits, I remain,  
Very sincerely, yours,

H. G. MATTON.

MADAM: So long as it is necessary for Americans to go to Paris to breathe the artistic atmosphere not to be found here, such an institution as the American National Institute will undoubtedly be of great service and comfort to the students.

CLARENCE ANDREWS,  
489 Fifth Avenue,  
Concerts Operas and Festivals.

The plan of Miss Smedley's enterprise for the protection and home for American girls studying in Paris is worthy of the hearty support of all artists, and I cheerfully add my signature to its commendation.

THOMAS B. WOOD,  
President Academy of Design, New York,  
Twenty-third Street and Fourth Avenue.

Edgard M. Ward indorses the same.

ART STUDENTS' LEAGUE OF NEW YORK,  
215 WEST FIFTY-SEVENTH STREET.

DEAR MADAM: The Art Students' League is glad to add its indorsement to the many you already have for the proposed institute for American women at Paris; and also trusts that the endowment of scholarships for study of art abroad may be a matter of the near future.

Very truly, yours,

HENRY PRELWITZ, *Director.*

From my own knowledge of student life abroad, I most heartily approve and hope that soon something of the same nature may be started for men.

CHARLES LEE TRACY.

There is not a place in Paris where a girl can properly be cared for without paying a large price, and even then there is much to be desired. That there is an urgent need of such an institution as you desire to establish is evident to all who have a knowledge of the musical student life.

One of our prominent artists said to me, when speaking to him of your plan, "Our Government ought to aid the artists. They could so easily appropriate a number of thousands of dollars yearly for the benefit of students living abroad, to aid them in their labor, and thereby build up a sure and substantial foundation for art in our own country in the future. The students could work with so much more courage if relieved from a part of the money obligation. As you propose to arrange your work, the unpleasant burden of charity is removed from it, and the place, when established, made self-supporting."

Whether by Government or private individuals, I trust that your work will receive speedy recognition, and success crown all your efforts. They are assuredly in the right direction.

Most sincerely, etc.,

H. C. HIBBARD.

14 EAST THIRTY-EIGHTH STREET,  
New York, May 18, 1896.

MY DEAR MADAM: The plan of the American National Institute in Paris as you have explained it to me is full of interest and promise. So many of the young men and women of America are attracted to France every year by their desire to pursue the study of art that it has become very desirable to provide them with wise guidance and direction. A council of experienced persons, carefully selected, not only with regard to their knowledge of art, but also with regard to their character and knowledge of life, could certainly give most valuable advice and help to young art students, and keep them from making some of the mistakes which are natural to youth and inexperience.

I trust that your efforts will have the success that they deserve, and hope that your plan will turn out to be the means of accomplishing a great and real good.

Very sincerely, yours,

HENRY VAN DYKE, D. D.

NEW YORK, January 21, 1896.

Before leaving New York for Madrid, in the interest of art, I read with much pleasure in the columns of the New York World the success which has crowned the worthy endeavors of Miss Mathilde Smedley in behalf of American students.

Knowing the privations of student life as I do, I know that too much assistance and consideration can not be given to further her efforts. She has grasped the situation, and her scheme will master its difficulties. All persons interested in the earnest student, forced to cultivate talents for a livelihood, should join in bringing to a speedy realization the great work so looked forward to, so ardently desired by the students themselves.

WM. M. CHASE.

PARIS, HOTEL CONTINENTAL.

I want you to look into the case of some American girls who are living at —, rue —, that were brought over from America by a sort of clergyman, he having taken money from their parents for their education, etc. This story was related to me by Miss Lee, a cousin of one of the girls. Of the particulars I, of course, know nothing more than has been told me; but some urgent and energetic means should be taken, and it is a case in which you could easily give a helping hand by taking them off to your home. Will you come to see me at the hotel if you have a moment's time?

Yours, very sincerely,

The honorable Mrs. SPENCER COWPER.

Having spent many years as a vocal student in Paris, Milan, and the capital cities of Germany, no one can appreciate more fully than myself the necessity of just such a home and protection for American girls, who up to the present time have to endure privations and annoyances which can only be fully realized by those who have shared them.

Wishing you all success, believe me, yours sincerely,

LILLIE BERG.

I commend the work most heartily to all interested in the education of youth.

MARY L. DEY.

DECEMBER 29, 1896.

You may rest assured that I will in every way encourage and assist you in the task you have undertaken.

ALEX. S. WEBB,  
President New York College.

NEW YORK.

DEAR MADAM: I am very much interested in your project to form headquarters in Paris for American women wishing to study there. Many scholars from the Woman's Art School go abroad from year to year, and it is a subject of anxiety to them and myself that they should be positively and agreeably situated in a city where they are strangers, and whose civilization is different from our own.

Wishing you all success in what seems to me a noble and most useful undertaking, I remain,

Yours, sincerely,

SUSAN NICHOLAS CARTER,  
*Principal Woman's Art School, Cooper Union.*

During my recent visit to Paris I was forcibly reminded of the need of such a place for art students as you propose to provide, and I heartily hope it will prove a success. Yours is a noble work—one that should certainly appeal to all lovers of art and literature and Americans in every land. With all good wishes, I remain,

Yours for art and American girls,

WILLIAM LAURENCE CHITTENDEN,  
*"Poet Ranchman of Texas."*

This undertaking demands the approval and support of every loyal American.

ELIZABETH B. BORST.

NEW YORK, 1895.

By examining the way in which you intend to bring about such a great work, you can be sure in advance that everybody who is interested in art will be disposed to help you in your enterprise, which indeed has been desired for a long time.

I have often seen how much difficulty young foreign art students in this great metropolis have had to find a convenient pension or a modest hotel to stop at during their study time. Not only have they lost time and money, but neglected entirely their mission to Paris. I have seen cases when young American students had to go back to their country without having accomplished what they came for.

There are other important facts that have occurred in cases when the parents had sudden losses in their fortune, and the young student had to stop what was the beginning of a glorious career.

But for all these cases the plan of your Institute (Prix de Paris) provides. There is not only in view the moral support and chaperonage, but also the material in cases of necessity.

Once more I beg you to accept my warm congratulations for a perfect success.

Yours, truly,

HENRI VON DAUB.

NEW YORK CITY, 1895.

I very heartily indorse this project and hope it will be pursued to completion. I know of no better work in the interest of humanity and art.

GEO. HEPWORTH.

ASSOCIATE ALUMNÆ, NORMAL COLLEGE, NEW YORK CITY.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I listened to your account of your work with the greatest interest. It seems to me that you are filling a long-felt want in making it possible for our talented young women to continue their studies in Europe at a minimum expense, and with a maximum expense, of home comforts.

I feel that your proposed house in Paris will make it much simpler for women to carry on post-graduate work abroad, and that many will gladly avail themselves of the advantages and safeguards it will offer. I hope to bring the subject before the associate alumnae of the Normal College, and I think that your work will appeal to them very strongly.

With most cordial wishes for the speedy success of your plans, I am, very sincerely, yours,

Alice R. Northrop,  
*President of the Associate Alumnae.*

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M. Van Ingen, professor of art in this college, has been speaking to me of your talk last week in Poughkeepsie, and of the interest and importance of the work you have undertaken. We both feel that we should personally enjoy hearing you speak at the college, and that many of our professors and students would be glad to avail themselves of the opportunity of hearing you.

Could you conveniently speak here Tuesday, May 21, or Friday, May 24, at a quarter of 5? I shall be glad to place my parlor at your service, and hope you will dine with us at 6 o'clock.

I am, my dear Miss Smedley, very sincerely, yours,

Georgia O. Hendrick,  
*Lady Principal, Vassar College.*

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With the best of available teachers for those who understand that serious and continuous study is the only road to success, and for those who have by their work already proved to be worthy of the serious intentions of those masters this plan well sustained, properly managed, will certainly prove a success.

Yours, respectfully,

K. VAN EITEN.

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NEW YORK, 1895.

I am only too happy to have the privilege of indorsing your enterprise of establishing an institution in Paris for American girl art students. I will, of course, be glad to do all that is in my power to help you.

Your indorsement of so many Frenchmen of standing, as well as by distinguished Americans now residing in Paris, would seem a positive proof of the need of such an institution as you propose to build.

I am, respectfully, yours,

Frederick D. Grant,  
*Colonel, U. S. Army.*

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NEW YORK.

From such information as I have obtained concerning the proposed institution I am disposed to believe that it will supply a much-needed safeguard for American girls who purpose entering the student life of Paris, and I, therefore, take pleasure in adding my name in commendation of the project.

S. G. Potts,  
*Music Editor of The Churchman.*

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PARIS.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Are you not going to start some enterprise in connection with your original plan? I hope so, because you are certainly fitted for such a work, and that thought alone interested me in it and made me solicit a collection. Come and tell me about it when you have a leisure moment.

Baronne Seillière.

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NEW YORK CITY, March 2, 1895.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am very glad to hear that you are progressing so well with your plans for the American National Institute in Paris. Having lived abroad myself, I know some of the difficulties which beset young American students in France as well as other countries.

I sincerely hope that you will be successful in your efforts to collect the necessary money to erect the building and establish the home, which must prove such a benefit to those for whom it is intended.

Very truly, yours,

Hanford Crawford.

NEW YORK, June 10, 1896.

When we send forth some of our best women, and especially to that section of Europe which every true American loves, "beautiful France," we say godspeed, do your best, and come back quickly. Miss Smedley has been known to me for years. Her acts are convictions and her work God directed. Her mission abroad is a noble one.

W. A. A. GARDNER,  
*Rector Church of the Holy Comforter.*

PARIS.

It gives me much pleasure to see you so successful in this truly grand work, and that your noble efforts have been crowned with just merits.

PAUL H. RIERE.

Annie Leary would be glad to see this work accomplished.

I can not too strongly emphasize the need of the institution, as everyone familiar with Paris must do.

W. I.

Accept my best wishes for this grand enterprise.

CARLOTTA DEVIENNES.

489 FIFTH AVENUE,  
*New York, September 2, 1896.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am delighted to hear of your project, and to know that at last there will be a safe institution founded on business as well as artistic principles where our young American ladies who are preparing for a professional career will have genuine artistic training, encouragement, and protection.

Please accept my sincere and best wishes for your complete success.

Yours, most sincerely,

L. M. REUBEN.

EVERETT HOUSE, *New York.*

To succeed in any kind of work one must have a cause. I know of no cause more worthy than yours, and I most heartily predict and hope for your success.

Yours, sincerely,

J. B. POND.

NEW YORK.

Women have ceased to be a curiosity in art, and already occupy so honorable a position as to have for all time done away with ridicule. I sincerely wish you every success.

Yours, respectfully,

W. M. CHASE,  
*Ex-President Art League.*

A most worthy and commendable object.

PIERRE SERAVE MESME, D. D.

I most heartily indorse the movement Miss Smedley has in charge, because women will go to Paris to study art. In consequence many are plunged into

misery, and such an institution may be made a refuge for the strong and a discouragement for the hopelessly incompetent to go there to a fate that ends but in despair.

RUCKSTUHL,  
*Secretary Sculptors' Society.*

I heartily indorse this needed enterprise.

MADISON PETERS, D. D.

51 WEST TENTH STREET,  
*Cornwall-on-Hudson, N. Y., March 16, 1895.*

An excellent plan of an institution that will greatly benefit American students studying in Paris.

C. J. WRIGHT,  
*President New York Military Academy.*

NEW YORK.

The establishment which you have undertaken to organize in Paris for the benefit of young American women who go abroad to study art, as outlined to me, is upon such a broad and comprehensive plan that I doubt not it will meet universal approval.

I trust you may realize your fondest expectations.

Very sincerely,

JOSEPH J. LITTLE, *Publisher.*

NEW YORK.

According to the wish you expressed when you called yesterday, I am too happy to write you that I can not but approve of your views concerning the opening in Paris of an institute for young persons desirous of studying in France arts, sciences, literature, under the best direction.

I am sure that our public authorities will do all in their power to make your work a success in giving you and the students in your care any special facilities that would make the stay of young Americans in our country as profitable as possible. As to me, you may be assured that I shall not fail to commend your work to my people, being satisfied that your idea, if carried out as it is, will be full of promises for connections more friendly, more cordial, more intimate than ever, between two great nations, so alike in their aspirations, institutions, and destinies.

With my best wishes for the success and the execution of your enterprise, I have the honor to remain, dear Miss Smedley,

Yours, most respectfully,

ED. BRUWAERT.  
*Consul-General of France, New York.*

L'idée que vous avez eue est excellente, et je ne puis que faire des vœux pour le développement et le succès de votre œuvre. Je vous adresse mes respectueux hommages.

ANTONY RATIER.  
*Sénateur, Membre du Comité.*

AMBASSADE DE FRANCE AUX ETATS-UNIS,  
*Washington, D. C., April 9, 1896.*

DEAR MADAM: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter referring to the creation in Paris of an American Institute, in which your countrywomen may study and cultivate the liberal arts.

I read with interest the various documents you were kind enough to send me on that occasion and I beg you to accept my thanks for your communication.

An undertaking such as yours commends itself to all lovers of art, and I have no doubt you will find encouragement and help from the French masters when you apply to them for the realization of your programme. Wishing you the best success for your enterprise, I beg of you to believe me, dear madam,

Respectfully, yours,

PATENOTRE.

PARIS, January 22, 1896.

I need hardly assure you of the great interest I take in your work. I have already placed my services entirely at your disposition, and I will devote my best efforts to the furtherance of your great plans. I think I am better placed than any other to appreciate the immense benefit that such an institution as you propose will be to students in Paris. It has been my sad experience as a lawyer and counsel to witness so many instances of swindling and sometimes worse treatment practiced on young and inexperienced Americans in Paris by boarding-house keepers that I have often wondered how they could be best protected. You have solved the problem.

I sincerely trust that you will be able to enlist as many sympathies in the United States as you have in Paris, and I look forward with confidence to the day when the cornerstone of the American National Institute, Prix de Paris, will be laid.

Please accept my heartiest wishes, and believe me to be faithfully yours,

ARNAUD DE FOIARD.

What a boon such an institute will be for the hundreds of American girls and women who annually flock to Paris for study in the great schools of art, music, and science. I could bear ample testimony too often drawn from personal acquaintance with sad cases where such students have suffered or quite come to grief for lack of the very aid and comfort it is here proposed to furnish. The students are young, ambitious, inexperienced; few of them financially independent or morally self-reliant have the sense of being able to protect themselves in a great foreign city like Paris. May the institute win at the outset the assured success it deserves.

MRS. FRANK LESLIE.

DEAR MADAM: I have read with much gratification the prospectus of the Paris Institute for American Lady Students. The proposition to establish an institute, as it were, in that city where the unprotected and inexperienced young females who visit Paris to study the different arts may find guardianship for their womanly integrity as well as for the development of their artistic talents, seems to me of the highest importance and I am glad of an opportunity to express my hearty indorsement of the enterprise.

W. H. BEARD, N. A.  
CARRIE L. C. BEARD.

NEW YORK CITY, June 29, 1896.

Too often our students, left alone in a foreign capital, seek in vain for uplifters and friendships, and return to America skilled in their art, but with the loss of high ethical and spiritual ideas.

I have to-day dear friends studying in Paris, for whom I am often anxious lest their very success should involve a heavy sacrifice and the "better" should become the enemy of the "best." Those whose study is chiefly in the realm of art need especially the help of a strong Christian atmosphere.

The high aim of your work and the extraordinary list both of artists and philanthropists who have promised to aid make me send you my best wishes that your scheme may find large and speedy realization.

Sincerely, yours,

W. H. FAUNCE, D. D.,  
Baptist Church.

I have read the prospectus of the Paris Institute for American lady students, and believe it of much importance to our young countrywomen that the scheme should be consummated.

JOSEPH JEFFERSON, Actor.

APRIL 12, 1895.

I can not too strongly emphasize the need of the institute, as everyone familiar with Paris must know.

S. AUGUSTA PIERSON.

NEW YORK CITY.

The need of such an institution has long been felt by students in Paris.

W. A. BARING, *Architect*.

In an article of the Musical Courier, July 22, 1896, Mr. Grau, the great impresario, says the real stuff gets to the top by beginning at the bottom. "Paris is headquarters, so called 'holy see,' of the singing cult."

Colonel Mapleson, jr., is a man of different temperament and outlook from Mr. Grau. It will be interesting to see what he has to say to help the girls.

FANNY EDGAR THOMAS.

It gives me much pleasure to hear of your success in interesting President Low and Professor Ware. They will be most wise and judicious counselors in shaping your plan to a practical, useful, and successful end: and if they will aid in directing the matter in the first instance I doubt not they will give it their support and influence in later development.

With best wishes, very sincerely, yours,

EDW. MITCHELL.

For some years we have needed an institute for American students not only in Paris, but in New York.

M. CLEMENTINE SMEDLEY.

NEW YORK.

It is with delight I read your circular, and I am sure your grand efforts in so noble a cause will bring the great undertaking to a most successful issue. I will try in my small way to help with a few "bricks."

I am sincerely, yours,

ELLEN E. FLEMING.

PARIS.

Mrs. A. and others have done much to aid and protect them, but their work has not extended into the large plan. An institute where they can stay on the smallest possible terms, where their artistic life will not be trammelled by petty regulations, where the French language will be practiced—and, above all, where your kind and genial influence will give them a protection against impositions that they now often suffer from.

With Mrs. Walden Pell as the earliest friend of your project, your success is assured. I will do all I can do to aid you. It seems to me true, as you say, that "God is with you."

Sincerely, etc.,

THERESA VIELE.

The grand order of the Chefehat, decoration, bestowed by His Majesty the Sultan of Turkey for a paper on Turkey, read at the literary congress at the World's Fair at Chicago.

I can earnestly recommend this enterprise.

MELVILLE COOPER.

It will meet a great need of American women who desire to study the liberal arts abroad.

EDWARD GASTINIAN.



LONDON.

I have read many times of the crowded quarters of the girl students in that great city, and will be ready to lend a hand to the work when you visit our coast. If you come to London next month I should be so glad to know you better and learn of your great life work.

Our London address is

MRS. WM. S. EDWARDS,  
*Care of S. K. Manufacturing Company (Limited),  
 Broad Street House.*

Excellent protection for teacher and scholar. My very best wishes for success.

THEODOR BJORKSTEN.

248 FIFTH AVENUE.

I am sure your grand efforts in so noble a cause will bring the great undertaking to a most successful issue.

ELLEN R. HERNING.

I heartily approve of the enterprise.

A. L. SYPHER.

THE BERKELEY LYCEUM.

You are now on the right road to success. The situation could not be better, and the building will be a model institution if plans are carried out. But pupils must be made worthy of admission through examinations.

SARGENT.

I trust you will meet with a hearty response from all our people.

C. W. KRAUSHAAR.

AMERICAN AND FOREIGN TEACHERS' AGENCY,  
*23 Union Square, New York City.*

Nothing is more needed than just such a home and institution in Paris.

MMR. FULLERTON.

A noble scheme, with a noble motive, worthy the moral and financial support of every man who has a sister, daughter, or friend inclined toward the advancement of art.

JAMES CLARENCE HARVEY.

The plan suggested by Miss Smedley of assisting female art students in Paris, providing not only for their advancement in studies, but for proper institute accommodations and influences, must meet the approval of everyone. With a good organization and an accomplished executive leader the work must be successful.

HENRY GARDNER.

I consider it my duty to express my deep sympathy as regards the Institute in Paris, embodying Miss Smedley's courage. As a natural result, the deep and cordial friendship between the United States and France will be vastly augmented and more than ever cultivated.

T. V. RAFFAELLI.

DEAR MADAM : I am pleased to hear of the establishment of the Paris Institute, and wish herewith to express my hearty approval of the good work.

Respectfully,

SOPHIE L. M. PELL,  
*Contralto of Holy Trinity Church, Harlem.*

It seems to me that the scheme and purpose of the National American Institute at Paris are, as I understand them, excellent, and that its success is in every way desirable.

W. D. HOWELLS.

It is the duty of every American woman who is interested in the arts, or who in the future may be called upon to part with her own daughter to a chosen career, to acquaint herself with the surroundings of student life abroad, and to encourage and promote the means by which its difficulties may be overcome.

RATCLIFFE COPELTON,  
*Representative of Lamperti.*

The consummation of your project will be a divine blessing to those whose privilege it is to be under its fostering care.

WILLIAM SMEDLEY,  
*Choir Master All Angels.*

PARIS, December, 1896.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY : It has given me much satisfaction to hear of your success in securing the interest of so many well-known practical philanthropists in the work you have undertaken for the girls of our country. Your work is a truly valuable one, as it will give direction to those who need to pursue their studies here so that they will come prepared to get the best that is to be had ; and what is even more important, they will be so comfortably provided for that they will not be obliged to abandon their studies on account of ill health caused by the privation from which many suffer. Command me if my experience will be of any value, with best wishes believe me,

Very sincerely,

L. M. MCGINNIS.

I heartily indorse the foregoing letter of Mrs. McGinnis relative to Miss Smedley's work in Paris.

SOPHIE J. SYMS, of Denver, Colo.

I have carefully inquired into the aims and objects of the Paris Institute for young ladies, and can not but testify to my delight that such an institution has been founded, and know it will prove a benefit to many worthy artists.

Yours, sincerely,

WILLIAM HENRY HAMISTON,  
*Organist and Director Lake Forest Presbyterian Church.*

I will most cheerfully render any assistance I can to further this cause, believing that we have great talent here which, by the aid of wise counsel and friendly help, may be used in the right direction.

ELIZABETH JOHNSON, M. D.

NEW JERSEY.

It seems to me that it is an object which should secure for itself the good will and wishes of all who realize the importance of the field which it proposes to occupy.

ROBERT S. RUDD.

An institution which many students in the past have felt the need of.

WILLIAM T. SMEDLEY.

I am in sympathy with your work.

Yours, respectfully,

E. C. W. DIETRICH, *Architect.*

I think our American home life in its best phases is delightful, and a little of it to worthy young women in Paris will be a godsend to them. The institute you propose will consummate a worthy object.

OLIVER O. HOWARD, *General, U. S. Army.*

I very heartily commend the purpose of this undertaking, and look confidently to its successful accomplishment.

GEO. S. MALORY,  
*Editor of the Churchman, New York City.*

PARIS.

I was delighted to hear from our mutual friend that your plan of opening a house here in Paris for the reception of young American girls who come here to study is prospering so well, and I am quite grateful to Mrs. Walden Pell for giving you so much help in your project. I knew I was putting you under very powerful protection when I presented you to her, as she is a large-hearted woman, who, with so many others, would understand the necessity for such a house as you propose opening here, and, indeed, no one better than myself could understand what absolute want of such an institution there is in Paris; for, in my quality of professor of singing, I see so many beautiful voices spoiled, so many young girls led into so many extravagances and follies, just for the mere want of a guiding voice and protecting arms stretched out to them, and American mothers would do well, before allowing their daughters to come to this brilliant, seductive Paris, to find their girls some safe home and some motherly, Christian superintendence to which to confide them, and I should think you would be especially adapted for this task, and that girls confided to your care might count themselves very, very fortunate.

Wishing you every success in your enterprise, I am, etc.,

CLARICE ZISKA.

9, RUE TRAKTIR, 1<sup>er</sup> décembre 1896.

Knowing your work to be a great necessity, I am happy to become an annual subscriber.

S. BENSAUDE.

J'approuve l'œuvre de Miss Smedley à laquelle je souhaite le meilleur succès.

LÉON CLÉRY,  
*Avocat à la Cour d'appel, Membre du comité.*

Je serai heureux de pouvoir adresser ma petite contribution à la Bibliothèque de l'Institut national américain.

CHARLES RICHET,  
*Professeur à la Faculté de médecine, Membre du comité.*

24 DÉCEMBRE 1894.

J'approuve hautement la fondation d'un "American Institute for women" à Paris. et j'adresse mes plus vives félicitations aux fondateurs.

CAMILLE FLAMMARION, I. C.,  
Membre honoraire du comité.

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Avec le plus vif élan j'unis mes sentiments pour la réussite de la merveilleuse fondation de Miss Smedley.

MME. CAMILLE FLAMMARION,  
Officier de l'Instruction publique.

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Sympathique à l'œuvre de l'Institut américain pour les jeunes filles.

WILLIAM BOUGUEBEAU, C.,  
Membre de l'Institut, président de l'Association  
des artistes peintres, sculpteurs, architectes  
graveurs et dessinateurs.

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J'approuve chaleureusement l'intention prise par Miss Smedley et j'ai l'honneur de l'assurer de mon dévouement.

YVES GUYOT,  
Ancien ministre, Directeur politique du Siècle.

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J'approuve chaudement l'œuvre de Miss Smedley, si propre à servir la cause de la civilisation et à reserrer les liens entre la République française et la République des Etats-Unis.

JOSEPH FABRE,  
Sénateur de l'Aveyron.

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1894.

Avec sa sympathie et son approbation pour l'Institut du Prix de Paris de Miss Smedley.

EDOUARD SCHURÉ.

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Tous mes vœux pour le succès de la fondation d'un prix de Paris.

MADAME BLANC (THÉODORE BENTZON).

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Je signe de tout cœur pour

PAUL BOURGET, O.,  
Membre de l'Institut.

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Avec ma vive sympathie.

GEORGES BOYER,  
Secrétaire général de l'Académie nationale de musique.

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1894.

With my deepest sympathy for the work undertaken by Miss Smedley.

ALEXANDRE HARRISON.

6 DÉCEMBRE 1896.

Je joins mes vœux à ceux des amis de l'Institut national américain pour lui témoigner mon désir de voir cette utile création se fonder et s'installer à Paris.

L. PERIGNO.

The idea of an institute for American girl students in Paris is one that has always greatly interested me, and I cordially indorse this effort to put it into execution.

KATHARINE DE FOREST.

I thoroughly approve of this much-needed institution in France, and from an experience of many years' residence in Paris realize this great need of a well-organized home for self-supporting women.

EFFIE MACKENZIE EVANS,  
49, Avenue de l'Opéra, Paris.

Comm femme et comme lectrice, je ne puis trouver une œuvre plus passionnante que celle-ci. Je signe pour mon fils adoptif—Pierre Loti.

JULIETTE ADAM,  
Directrice de la Nouvelle Revue.

Je suis de tout cœur pour la réussite de ce grand projet.

1896.

J. HOLLMAN.

Je suis trop heureux d'apporter mon modeste concours à cette grande œuvre et j'inscris mon nom de grand cœur.

LAURENT, De l'Opéra.

Je trouve admirablement belle l'œuvre projetée à tous les points de vue et c'est du meilleur de mon cœur que j'ose joindre ma signature à celles de tant d'éminents personnages.

J. BAISSAC.

Je promets de donner un concert avec mes élèves au bénéfice de l'Institut, et de faire une diminution de prix aux élèves de l'Institut.

ANNA DE LA GRANGE.

Je promets de donner des leçons aux élèves de l'Institut à une réduction de prix.

E. DELLESEDE.

1895.

I am so glad that Miss Smedley has had the courage to undertake the hard task of establishing a national institute in Paris for American students. I have felt all through my artistic experience the great necessity of such a stepping stone for débutantes. I will do everything in my power for the welfare of this institution. To begin with, I will give lessons at half price to the students of the institute. If the mothers of America could realize what this work means to their daughters they would strain every nerve for its success. The sooner it is done the better.

PAULE GAYBARD PACINI,  
Officier d'Académie, teacher to their  
Highnesses the Princesses Louise, Victoria,  
and Maud of Wales for ten years.

4th NOVEMBER, 1896.

All my best wishes for the success of the institute. I shall give a picture with great pleasure.

FRANK HOLMAN.

I heartily approve of your scheme, believing it will be a great benefit to art.

WALTER MACEWEN.

PARIS, 1894.

Cette œuvre en vue d'un prix de Paris pour les artistes américaines a toute ma sympathie. J'espère que cet effort sera couronné de succès et donnera à notre chère Amérique de grandes artistes.

ALEXANDRE WEILL.  
ZADOC KAHN,  
*Grand Rabbî de France.*

Bien des vœux pour cette grande et belle œuvre.

AUGUSTE DECOPPET, D. D.,  
*Pasteur, président du conseil presbytéral de l'Oratoire.*

Je trouve l'idée de créer un conservatoire américain à Paris est très bonne et je fais des vœux pour la réussite de cette entreprise qui sera très utile pour l'enseignement de l'art musical.

ALEX. GUILMANT.

1894.

De tout cœur, toute mon approbation à l'œuvre de Miss Smedley.

JACQUES BOUGHY.  
FRÉDÉRIC LE REY,  
*Officier d'Académie,*  
*Compositeur de musique, rédacteur musical.*  
M<sup>me</sup> J.-B. BILLA-MANOTTE,  
*1<sup>er</sup> prix du Conservatoire de Paris.*

PARIS, October 27, 1896.

I am delighted to see the success Miss Smedley has met with in this most useful work. I appreciate what this work means to America.

I shall be most happy to contribute a small picture, not to be sold except at price fixed by the artist. Picture to be delivered within six months from this date.

JULIUS STEWART.

PARIS, October 28, 1896.

It will give me pleasure to contribute a small picture to the good cause in which Miss Smedley has interested us all—the picture, like others, will be delivered in six months and to be held at a price fixed by the painter.

E. L. WEEKS.

7 PLACE DES ETATS-UNIS,  
October 28, 1896.

The American National Institute will, I think, be of the greatest benefit to American girls studying in Paris, and I am glad to do what I can to forward its interests.

EMMA EAMES STORY.

I shall be very happy to be of service to Miss Smedley in her undertaking.

JOHN W. ALEXANDER.

Tous mes vœux pour l'Institut national américain.

G. SERIGLIA.

It gave me great pleasure to hear of the remarkable growth of what seems to be a near reality, the American National Institute.

Mrs. JAMES JACKSON.

Tous mes vœux pour l'Institut américain. Je promets mon concours à cette belle œuvre et je me joindrai à tous mes collègues aux mêmes conditions.

FIDÈLE KÖENIG,  
*Chef de chant à l'Opéra.*  
Madame KÖENIG,

En raison du très grand intérêt qu'offre la création à Paris d'une institution d'art spécialement affectée aux jeunes filles américaines, je consens exceptionnellement à me déranger, ce que je ne fais jamais, pour faire un cours dans l'institution qu j'instruirai dans l'art du chant trois fois par semaine pendant une heure et demie chaque fois. Maintenant, en ce qui concerne les leçons particulières prises chez moi, je veux bien encore faire une dérogation à mes prix habituels pour les élèves de l'institut seulement.

MARGUERITE YVELING RAMBAUD (née de Barral).

Je promets mon concours à l'Institut national Américain aux conditions stipulées par le comité.

J. DE PICCIOTTO.

LE 18 NOVEMBRE 1895.

MADAME: Je vous ai écrit l'autre jour pour vous remander des renseignements supplémentaires au sujet de votre lettre; ou, ces renseignements, je viens de les avoir par notre ami Benjamin Constant, et je puis, dès maintenant, vous dire que j'accepte avec plaisir de faire partie du conseil formé en vue d'établir l'Institut national Américain dont vous vous occupez.

Agréez, Madame, l'assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée.

VIRGINIE DEMONT-BRETON,  
*Prés. de la Société des femmes artistes, membre du comité.*

J'approuve de cœur cette formation de Société.

ROSA BONHEUR, O.

Je trouve des plus heureuses l'idée d'établir à Paris un institut de jeunes filles américaines et je forme les vœux les plus sincères pour la réussite de l'entreprise.

H. ROUJON, O.,  
*Directeur des beaux-arts.*

Cette institution se recommande aux sympathies de tous les Franco-Américains.

HENRY VIGNAUD,  
*Premier secrétaire de l'ambassade des Etats-Unis d'Amérique.*

PARIS, 1896.

Je suis heureux de pouvoir me joindre à mes collègues et j'approuve cette idée, inspirée par les plus nobles sentiments. Au moment venu je donnerai une petite esquisse.

J.-P. LAURENS,  
*Membre de l'institut, O.*

Le noble but de Mlle. Smedley mérite les plus vives sympathies et je lui adresse toutes mes félicitations avec mes meilleurs souhaits.

BARTHOLDI, C.

PARIS, November 27, 1896.

I fully approve of the noble undertaking and wish it success with all my heart.

ALEXANDRA GRIPPENBERGS,  
*President of the Finnish Women's Association, Helsingfors, Finland.*

Très flatté de pouvoir mettre mon nom à côté de ceux qui encouragent la nouvelle société. J'enverrai un plâtre pour la galerie.

RODIN,  
*Membre honoraire du comité.*

L'Institut national a toutes mes sympathies. Je serai toujours prêt à l'aider et au besoin à le défendre. Je réserve pour la galerie de l'Institut national soit un dessin, soit une peinture de moi.

CHARTREAN, G.

Je serai très heureux de voir réussir cette grande œuvre de l'Institut national américain et lui adresse de tout cœur mes vœux de succès. Je promets ou un dessin ou une étude modelée pour la galerie de l'Institut.

H. ALLOUARD.

PARIS, le 30 octobre 1896.

Tous mes vœux pour l'Institut national, et ma promesse d'une petite étude signée.

BENJAMIN CONSTANT, O.,  
*Membre de l'institut, membre honoraire du comité.*

PARIS, 4 novembre 1896.

Tous mes vœux et toute ma sympathie sont acquis à l'Institut national américain, auquel j'offrirai volontiers une étude ou un dessin.

R. COLLIN.

De tout cœur et de sentiments à l'idée grandiose et unique.  
Heureuse d'apporter un fragment d'une de mes pages impressionnistes.

JULIA BECK.

PARIS, le 7 novembre 1896.

Tout ce qu'on fait pour la jeunesse, je suis prêt à l'encourager non seulement de mes vœux, mais d'un appui effectif. Cette institution parfaite dans son



esprit peut, en ouvrant l'avenir et en le facilitant aux jeunes filles, rendre un grand service non seulement à elles, mais à leur pays. Aussi j'y souscris de tout cœur et je donnerai une étude pour leur collection.

CAROLUS DURAN, C.,  
*Vice-président de la Société nationale, Champ-de-Mars,*  
*Membre honoraire du comité.*

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Je suis très heureux de prêter mon concours dans un concert pour l'institution artistique américaine et je souhaite le plus grand succès à cette œuvre si intéressante.

L. BREITNER, I.

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Puisse le génie de Beethoven, Melstersinger par excellence du monde entier, consacrer la maison aux plus hautes œuvres de son art divin.

GUSTAVE GOTTHIEL,  
*Rabbin du Temple Emmanuel.*

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Vous savez bien que vous avez toute ma sympathie et la promesse de tout mon concours.

G. DE MORSIER,  
*Membre du conseil de la Société française d'arbitrage,*  
*Membre honoraire du comité.*

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CHÂTEAU DE CASQUETRANNE, HYÈRES,  
 25 octobre 1896.

CHÈRE MADEMOISELLE: J'ai bien du regret d'être si loin et de ne pouvoir vous rendre visite.

Oui, certes, j'accepte d'être membre honoraire de votre utile entreprise, non seulement parce qu'elle est bonne et belle, mais enfin en souvenir de notre chère et vaillante amie Emilie de Morsier que vous n'avez pas retrouvée, hélas! lorsque vous êtes revenue en France.

Je vous fais envoyer aussi, comme vous en avez témoigné le désir, quelques exemplaires de la Revue scientifique.

Croyez-moi, je vous prie, votre très respectueux admirateur et serviteur.

CHARLES RICHET,  
*Professeur de la Faculté de médecine, membre du comité.*

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Je suis heureux de vous exprimer tous mes vœux en faveur de l'Institut national américain qui se fonde.

EDOUARD DETAILLE,  
*Membre de l'Institut, O.*

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1<sup>er</sup> JANVIER 1895.

M. et Mme Mounet-Sully, charmés de l'idée de Miss Smedley, y applaudissent du meilleur de leur cœur et tous leurs vœux bien sincères pour la réussite définitive.

MOUNET-SULLY.

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Tous mes vœux, tous mes souhaits.

BONNAT, C.,  
*Membre de l'Institut.*

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Faire le bien—et le bien faire, c'est-à-dire être à la fois bon et utile. Telle est la pensée qui a guidé les fondateurs de cette œuvre. J'y applaudis des deux mains, et j'offre avec grand plaisir mes œuvres à la bibliothèque de l'Institut national américain.

FRANÇOIS COPPÉE, C.,  
*Membre de l'Institut, membre honoraire du comité.*

Je m'associe de tout cœur aux sentiments exprimés par mon ami Coppée à l'égard de l'Institut national américain et je fais à cette belle fondation la même offre que lui.

SULLY PRUD'HOMME, G.,  
*Membre de l'Institut, membre honoraire du comité.*

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Et moi aussi, mon cher Sully Prud'homme et mon cher Coppée.

JEAN AICARD.

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Je m'associe à mes amis pour les vœux en faveur du comité et pour en faire partie.

PAUL DUBOIS, G. C.  
*Membre de l'Institut, directeur de l'Ecole des beaux-arts,  
Membre honoraire du comité.*

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J'exprime ma plus complète et dévouée admiration aux fondateurs de cette œuvre artistique, nécessaire et absolument bienfaisante. Elle est digne du grand peuple qui l'aura voulue. Si ma présence à Paris me le permet, je me joindrai aux organisateurs de la prochaine fête musicale de l'Institut national de l'Amérique (Prix de Paris).

MASSNET, C.,  
*Membre de l'Institut, membre honoraire du comité.*

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Hélas! ainsi que l'illustre maître, auprès duquel je suis très honorée de me trouver, je ne puis dire que ceci: si ma santé me le permet, au retour de la campagne si fatigante que je vais entreprendre, je chanterai à mon retour d'Amérique pour l'œuvre si intéressante.

EMMA CALVÉ.

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PARIS, 7 novembre 1896.

Je m'associe bien volontiers à l'œuvre de l'Institut national américain et j'applaudis de grand cœur aux efforts artistiques des fondateurs.

TH. DUBOIS, O.,  
*Membre de l'Institut, directeur du Conservatoire,  
Membre honoraire du comité du conseil de l'Institut national américain.*

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3 NOVEMBRE 1896.

Je suis très honoré de faire partie du conseil de l'Institut national américain. Tous mes souhaits les meilleurs lui sont acquis.

J'aurai grand plaisir à offrir à l'Institut une peinture signée de moi.

P. PUVIS DE CHAVANNES, C.,  
*Membre honoraire du comité.*

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Je suis toujours de l'avis de mon cher maître, mais cette fois plus que jamais. Cependant je prouverai mieux ma vive sympathie à l'Institut en donnant à sa bibliothèque les œuvres de mon père, le pain de l'esprit.

ABY RENAN.

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31 WEST SEVENTY-SECOND STREET, NEW YORK,  
*Mardi de Pâques, 1895.*

Je considère l'entreprise de Miss Smedley comme une grande œuvre et comme une nécessité de notre siècle.

CHAS. FRANK HOFFMANN, D. D., LL. D., D. C. L.

Je m'intéresse beaucoup à votre œuvre, l'estimant comme un grand pas en avant dans l'enseignement.

LOUIS C. TIFFANY.

L'œuvre que Miss Smedley se propose de mettre en exécution est d'un grand mérite et d'une haute utilité.

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW, LL. D.,  
*Chairman Executive Committee.*

NEW YORK.

If you can only place this institution on a footing which will make it an independent one, surely our Americans ought to feel it a privilege to be able to say it was founded by an American woman, who, seeing the necessity of such a place, has worked for its best good, and we will do all in our power to help along the good work.

Wishing you bon voyage and a speedy return, I am,  
Cordially, yours,

ANNE BULKELEY HILLS.

12 JANVIER 1895.

CHÈRE MISS SMEDLEY : Tous mes vœux vous sont acquis—une telle institution est devenue indispensable !

Les efforts personnels des Américains, joints à ceux des "homes" déjà créés, pour secourir les jeunes filles venant étudier à Paris, en plus grand nombre chaque jour, sont devenus insuffisants. Sous votre influence, l'Amérique aura réalisé un grand projet, auquel s'associent tous mes amis à Paris, Français et Américains.

Les jeunes étudiantes que la misère et le désespoir ont emportées ou égarées ont été l'inspiration muette de cette belle pensée. Celles, plus prudentes, qui, après de trop courtes études ici, retournent dans leur province pour enseigner ont aussi contribué, sans le savoir, à son éclosion. Parmi toutes ces jeunes filles, que leurs parents, seuls juges jusqu'ici de leur talent, avaient envoyées, pleines d'espoir, à Paris, quelques-unes seulement étaient assez douées pour profiter de leurs études. L'Institut, heureusement, n'acceptera que ces dernières, et il en fera sûrement des artistes capables de rendre des services à leur pays et de contribuer à sa gloire.

En résumé : l'examen éliminatoire de New-York, les bourses pour les étudiantes qui se seront distinguées, les concessions que vous ont consenties les éminents artistes-professeurs de Paris, ainsi que le "family home" que vous créez conjointement avec l'Institut lui-même, permettront aux jeunes filles de toutes conditions, mais les mieux douées, de trouver à l'Institut national américain de Paris, en même temps qu'une éducation artistique complète, les conseils et les soins si nécessaires à des jeunes filles loin de leur foyer. Voilà ce que j'ai vu dans votre œuvre, chère madame, entre autres bienfaits, et ce que j'approuve hautement. Je vous en félicite sincèrement et vous suis très reconnaissant d'avoir pensé à m'y intéresser en inscrivant mon nom parmi ceux des membres du conseil.

Cordialement à vous,

ANITA BOCAGE,  
*Membre honoraire du comité.*

Cette œuvre ne peut que resserrer les liens déjà intimes qui existent entre les deux pays et j'y adhère de grand cœur.

E. DE BONDELI,  
*Sous-directeur du Crédit lyonnais.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY : I am moved to express my sincere admiration for your brave endeavor to establish for American students in Paris a dwelling place, moderate in price, equipped with conveniences necessary for physical comfort and health, and at the same time affording an environment that will encourage moral and mental, as well as artistic growth. To justly appreciate the worth and importance of your undertaking one must have proven, either by observation or personal experience, the urgent need which exists for the protection of students in this and in every great art center. Could this need be

fully realized, the accomplishment of your cherished plan would be of vital importance to every father and mother where son or daughter leaves the shelter of home to remain here alone for study.

The encouraging and most flattering results attending your efforts thus far, dear Miss Smedley, point to a very speedy realization of your hopes that reached, many there will be who will call you "blessed among women."

Faithfully yours,

SARA DE LANDE.

PARIS, 23 octobre 1896.

Je m'associe de tout cœur au projet de l'Institution artistique américain de Mlle. Smedley, œuvre absolument nécessaire à l'éclosion d'un art musical en Amérique.

M. J. MARSICK, O.

J'associe bien volontiers mes vœux à tous ceux qui sont formés pour le succès de l'American National Institute.

EUG. PEREIRE.

*Président de la Compagnie transatlantique.*

Je donnerai mes conseils avec tout le dévouement que vous pouvez en souhaiter.

MADAME FUCHS, O.

*Officier de l'Instruction publique.*

I send you these few lines to let you know that I am very much pleased to hear that the American National Institute is in progress. I hope that it will prove a great benefit to American students and I will gladly contribute a picture to its art gallery.

L. LEE ROBBINS.

Cette institution me paraît être du plus grand intérêt, et elle a toutes mes sympathies.

BARON ALPHONSE DE ROTHSCHILD, C.

DECEMBER 4.

The American National Institute has all my sympathy. I hope with all my heart that we shall soon have it erected in Paris.

CHRISTINE NILSSON,

*Comtesse de Casa Miranda, Grand cordon d'Espagne,  
Croix norvégien, Croix Saxe-Cobourg, médailles Suède,  
Cour d'Autriche.*

31 RUE DE MONCEAU,

Paris 16 novembre 1896.

J'approuve de tout mon cœur le but de cet institut qui me semble appelé à rendre de très grands services, et je fais des vœux pour qu'il se fonde d'une façon définitive.

MADELEINE LEMAIRE,

*Membre fondateur de la Société du Champ-de-Mars, etc.,  
Membre honoraire du comité.*

LE 11 NOVEMBRE 1896.

De toute ma pensée et de tout mon cœur j'applaudis à toutes les œuvres qui tendent à resserrer les liens qui doivent exister entre tous les peuples du monde. Je donnerai un pâtre à la société.

SYAMOUR.

J'aurai grand plaisir à chanter au profit de l'Institut américain à Paris, lorsque M. Seidl donnera son concert.

LILLIAN NORDICA DEMÉ.  
ZALBAN DEMÉ.

26 NOVEMBRE 1896.

Je suis tout acquis à l'œuvre bienfaisante (l'Institut national américain) que se propose d'établir à Paris la grande nation américaine.

Je m'inscris de tout cœur pour offrir à la galerie d'art projetée une étude signée.

J. MACHARD.

Je ne puis qu'applaudir au beau projet qui réussira j'espère. Faciliter les études, les rendre aussi complètes que possible, est une œuvre noble et digne de tous les encouragements.

Je me ferai un plaisir d'offrir une étude pour la galerie de l'Institut.

TONY ROBERT FLEURY, O.

Je joins mes vœux à ceux de mon confrère et ami M. Robert-Fleury.

JULES LEFEBVRE, O.,  
Membre de l'Institut.

28 NOVEMBER 1896.

Après notre conversation, je crois que l'Institut national américain peut rendre de grands services, et tous mes souhaits pour la réussite de cette œuvre.

Recevez, Mademoiselle, l'expression de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

R. DU MADRAZO, O.

( My best wishes for the success of this most excellent project.  
I will gladly contribute a small picture, which will be ready in six months.  
WALTER GAY.

C'est avec une grande joie que j'aidrai de mon mieux à la réussite de cette institution américaine en France. J'offrirais et avec plaisir une de mes peintures pour son musée, en bon souvenir de mon voyage en Amérique.

J. V. RAFFAELLI.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: In answer to your questions I have no hesitation in saying:

1. That plenty of singers come here who had better stay at home, where there are teachers quite competent enough to teach them, because they do not possess voice and talent enough to make it worth while their coming to Europe.

2. That those who possess fine voices or great musical talent had best come at once to Paris to study, without studying at home first. Teachers always prefer pupils who have not been taught at all to those who have been taught.

3. It is absolutely useless to come here with any idea of singing on the French stage unless pronunciation in French is free from English accent.

4. Your society should use all its influence to do away with the foolish prejudice in America that singers must make their début in Europe before they will accept them at home. On the contrary, let us encourage home talent.

Faithfully, yours,

SEBASTIAN B. SCHLESINGER.

Je m'estimerai très heureux de pouvoir contribuer à l'établissement et à la prospérité de l'Institut national américain.

ALFRED RAMBAUD,  
Ministre de l'Instruction publique et des beaux-arts.

22 NOVEMBRE 1896.

CHÈRE MISS SMEDLEY : Je m'associe avec plaisir à la belle œuvre que vous allez créer.

Bien sincèrement à vous,

PAULINE VIAUDOT.  
E. H. GARCIA.

Je m'associe de grand cœur à cette œuvre si intéressante, et je promets de donner aux élèves que l'Institut m'enverra des leçons avec une réduction de moitié sur mes prix ordinaires.

M. BATAILLE.

Ainsi que je vous l'ai dit dans la conversation que nous avons eue ensemble, je serais disposée à faire partie de l'Institut national américain qui va être fondé à Paris, comme professeur de chant, d'opéra et d'opéra-comique. Mon expérience me permet d'affirmer qu'il faut :

Trois années d'études sérieuses pour être capable de chanter pour le répertoire du grand opéra ou de l'opéra-comique.

Deux années d'études sérieuses pour la carrière des concerts.

Dieux années pour la carrière du professorat.

Il faut, en outre, avant de commencer des études vocales sérieuses, que les élèves soient bonnes musiciennes, connaissant bien le solfège, et sachant parler au moins un peu le français.

Je suis tout à votre disposition si d'autres renseignements vous étaient nécessaires en ce qui concerne le chant et son enseignement, afin que vous puissiez réunir tous les éléments nécessaires pour assurer le bon fonctionnement de l'Institut national américain.

Veuillez agréer mademoiselle, l'assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée.

RENÉE RICHARD,  
*De l'opéra, Officier de l'Instruction publique.*

Our sympathies and interests are in this work and we heartily indorse it. We will gladly associate ourselves with a committee to give a concert in our studio for the benefit of the institute.

CHARLES HOLMAN BLACK.

J'espère que Miss Smedley viendra me trouver, si, en quoi que ce soit, je puisse être utile à sa grande œuvre.

ROSE BEECHER COLLINS.

Nous approuvons de tout cœur l'œuvre de Miss Smedley qui rendra beaucoup de services aux artistes.

TEDESCO FRÈRES.

In sympathy with the work for the institution for American students.

CHARLES SPRAGUE PEARCE.

I shall, of course, contribute a picture or artistic production to further such a good cause to which I have already given my support in writing.

F. A. BRIDGMAN.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY : If you remember I spoke to you before I left Paris, and you were kind enough to say that I might come to the institute. As the financial question is a very important one to me, will you tell me the price and have you room for me? I shall be very grateful if you will answer as soon as possible as I wish to leave here Friday, go home for several days, and be in Paris the 1st of October.

Sincerely,

ALICE K. SNIDER.

4 RUE DE CHEVREUSE,  
Paris, June 6, 1893.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Being interested in the study of vocal music, would like to ascertain how soon one can begin with the new school over which you will preside?

I have been sent to you from the Brooklyn Eagle bureau, at Paris, by Miss Bullet.

I am informed you have several days at home during the week; would it be convenient for you to talk with me on the subject at such a time?

Respectfully, yours,

LOUISE HOLLIS.

[Forge House, Fulton Chain. N. A. Briggs, proprietor.]

OLD FORGE, N. Y., August 15, 1893.

Miss MATILDA SMEDLEY,

DEAR MADAME: Will you kindly send me a prospectus or particulars about the Paris Conservatoire, which I heard of through Colonel Adams, of New York. I have two nieces who are desirous of studying singing and painting abroad, and I also am anxious to continue my piano studies. An early reply will greatly oblige,

Yours, very truly,

FLORENCE SCHUBERT,  
302 South Thirteenth Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

[Missouri State Library, Jefferson City. Jennie Edwards, librarian.]

OCTOBER 8, 1900.

Miss MATILDA SMEDLEY.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have learned something about the American National Institute in Paris of which you seem to be the director. I would be very grateful for further information and any literature that you might have on the subject. I know of two young ladies who are anxious to know the expense, the lines of instruction, etc.

Most sincerely, yours,

JENNIE EDWARDS.

[Rodman Wanamaker, president; William M. Thorne, vice-president; Herman D. Murphy, treasurer; Nesbit Benson, secretary.]

AMERICAN ART ASSOCIATION, 131 BOULEVARD MONTFARNASSE,  
Paris, November 7, 1876.

DEAR MADAM: Mr. Rodman Wanamaker for the present is out of town, but as soon as he returns I shall communicate with you.

We are very desirous to collect and consolidate all the interest people may have in us—being certain that the money spent on the American Art Association serves a good end.

Respectfully,

NESBIT BENSON, Secretary.

[Emerson McMillin, Henry B. Wilson.]

EMERSON McMILLIN & CO., BANKERS,  
40 Wall street, New York, July 14, 1898.

Miss M. SMEDLEY,

Van Dyke Building, 930 Eighth avenue, New York.

DEAR MADAM: I return to you herewith the paper you sent me relating to the establishment of the American National Institute in Paris. I have taken copy of the paper.

I thank you for the privilege, and will do what I can to aid in securing an appropriation from the Government.

Very truly, yours,

EMERSON McMILLIN.

9 RUE DES FOURNEAUX,  
Paris, February 9, 1899.

MISS SMEDLEY: Your idea of a Prix de Paris for our art students from America is just what we have long needed, and certainly all who know of this movement, as far as I have talked with them since your successful meeting of Saturday evening, are perfectly delighted with the idea, and are very enthusiastic over the thought that some one has taken up the cause on behalf of the American art student in Paris.

Yours, sincerely,

CARL F. SMITH.

PARIS, March 22.

MISS SMEDLEY: I am pleased to learn that you have not only seen the difficulties the American art students have to contend with in Paris, but that you have actually taken steps in the right direction in organizing a much-needed institution that will in every way meet the wants of those who come here for study, and more especially those with limited means, and am convinced, from the little observation I have made during fifteen years' residence in Paris, that such an institution could not fail to prove a great blessing and a credit to any Christian country.

Very sincerely, etc.,

DR. J. J. RYAN.

PARIS, January 22, 1895.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: The idea of a "Prize of Paris" for Americans, corresponding with the "Prix de Rome" for French art students, is not a new one of to-day. For years I have thought of it, as well as others, but the great thing now is to realize it.

I believe that you are now on the right road to success, and I have no doubt that you will not only succeed but that a few months will see the embodiment in durable material of the excellent general plans which you have shown me.

The situation could not be better for a great many reasons, and the building will be a model institution if plans are carried out. But pupils must be made worthy of admission through "concours."

I wish you all success, and appreciate the work you have before you, and I hope that you will find the immediate support among the wealthy of America.

Sincerely, yours,

F. A. BRIDGMAN.

NEW YORK, November 13, 1894.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Your favor 12th instant to hand. Regret I will not be able to meet you this evening. Hope I may see you before you sail. I felt assured your visit would result favorably, for you are doing a grand work in Paris, and your many friends in the United States fully appreciate your ability; and many like yourself would be only too glad to put our daughters under your care and protection. Hoping God will continue to shower upon you and your work His blessings, believe me,

Cordially, yours,

W. GLENN TAYLOR.

1 WEST FIFTY-THIRD STREET,  
New York City.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: In obedience to your request, I write you this letter to approve the effort you are now making in behalf of American students in Paris. With such an indorsement as you have shown to me, of most prominent citizens in this country and in France, I can not doubt that you will succeed. Wishing and believing that you will, I am,

Very sincerely, yours,

REV. JOHN W. BROWN,  
Of St. Thomas's Church.



APRIL 20, 1899.

DAVID H. GREER, *St. Bartholomew's*:

I consider this to be a great want, and likely, from my knowledge of Miss Smedley, to be carried to a great success.

EDWARD WALPOLE WARREN,  
*Rector St. James's Church.*

285 FIFTH AVENUE,  
*New York, November 15, 1894.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am very glad to learn that you are making such good success with your enterprise in establishing a Christian home for young lady art students in Paris. Such an institution will be a great advantage at the present time, and if it can be established on a permanent basis will be of the most incalculable benefit to the American art students, and I know of no one more competent than yourself to organize such an establishment.

Yours, respectfully.

LEWIS A. SAYRE.

NEW YORK, 1896.

I am glad to have the opportunity to add my name to the long list of those who have indorsed your work. I think such an institution as you propose to secure for your female art students in Paris is very much needed.

The present conditions, mode of life, and surroundings of many of these young women are not what it should be, as I have had ample opportunity to see during my three years' residence in the Latin quarter.

Yours, very truly,

ERNEST FLAGG, *Architect.*

John Clark Ridpath, LL. D., ex-vice-president De Pauw University, author of *Great Races of Mankind*, *History of the World*, etc., of Greencastle, Ind., approving the work here proposed by Miss Smedley.

John Bryan, of Ohio, author of *Fables and Essays*.

NEW YORK.

I certainly think that cautious sifting of students is eminently necessary, because I have seen so many uselessly encouraged.

J. LA FARGE.

NEW YORK, November 13, 1894.

I sincerely hope the philanthropic Americans will see this as I see it and cooperate with you in this glorious work. Wishing you abundant success, believe me,

Very truly, yours,

CHARLES AYER WHIPPLE.

AMERICAN ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION,  
*Paris, April, 1905.*

MISS M. SMEDLEY.

DEAR MADAM: As an American art student I should like to express my appreciation of the value of the work upon which you have so energetically entered. To anyone who knows how the average student of art or music has to live in this great, crowded city, with the bad food and worse accommodations and the attractive but unwholesome moral atmosphere—to anyone who has had more than a casual glance at the student life here there can be no question as to the crying need for just such an institution as the one you are about to establish, and especially do our girls need it.

The advantages of your institution to an inexperienced person coming to Paris without a sufficient knowledge of the language would be many. To find at once a ready source of information on all points relating to either music or art, choice of professors or schools, etc., would supply a long-felt want, and the opportunity for acquiring the language, the comforts of an American home,

coupled with good fare and attendance at so reasonable a sum as 5 francs per day, are advantages of which our young women student of music or art will be quick and glad to avail herself.

I feel assured of the success of your plans, and should it be in my power to further them in any way, believe me,

Yours, to command.

G. W. B., *Secretary.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Gladly I offer my humble services for the promotion of this glorious work.

HENRI B. CRULSTILL.

36 NOTRE DAME DES CHAMPES,

*February 5, 1899.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I was so interested in what you said about the "art institute" last evening, and I want to thank you for what you are doing for the art of our country.

Years ago I came abroad and studied for a time and my masters told me that with hard study I might become one of the great ones, but want of funds sent me home, and for fifteen years I taught, always hoping to some day take up my art work again, and now the time has come and I am one of the art students of the Latin Quarter. I can not but think what "might have been" had the art institute existed years ago, both for me and for the hundred of pupils I have taught the little I knew about art. I am so glad that those who come after will find an easier road. And I expect great things from your work; it is truly marvelous. Success to you is my sincere prayer.

Yours, very sincerely,

EMILY L. WYMAN.

164 RUE DE BANGIARD.

*Paris, February 13, 1899.*

MISS SMEDLEY:

Having been present when you kindly gave the little address in Mrs. Smith's studio in regard to your efforts to have a building in Paris where American students might have facilities for studying, I write to say that I think such an institution might be of much benefit if conducted on broad principles. Having been a student here myself, I know that I should have keenly appreciated such a place to study. I put in a plea right now that classes may be open to those of us who would still like to gain knowledge, although we are not in the first flush of youth. We are still young enough in spirit to have our influence upon the world, and may help to elevate our country—long may it live—to a broader plane of thought, where art, literature, and music will at least hold their own with money and politics.

Hoping you will let us hear from you again on the subject,

Very truly, yours,

MARIE LOUISE LASAR.

COMSTOCK ART SCHOOL,

*28 West Twenty-third Street, New York, November 16, 1894.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Every American heart must swell with pride and admiration for the grand institution you are endeavoring to erect. Mine does, and I want to do all in my power to aid such a noble cause, which will do so much to further the art education of our girls. Such an institution is indeed greatly needed, and I know of many here who will avail themselves of its advantages at the earliest possible moment.

With every wish for its great success, yours, most sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. F. DU BOIS.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., *April 29, 1900.*

MISS MATHILDA SMEDLEY,

*American Institute, Paris.*

DEAR MISS: In one of our local papers and through the Associated Press news I learned of the inauguration of the American National Institute, of which your

name was mentioned as the "founder." Will you kindly explain the motives and purposes of this enterprise, which you have so successfully lunched in the world for the benefit of the American art students? I am desirous of sending my son to Paris to complete his musical education on the violin, and my means being limited and having no acquaintances in the city of Paris I would like to know, if it be within your province to answer, if I could get the help of the institute toward gaining admission for him to the French Conservatory of Music. He is at present 18 years and 6 months old. What, in your opinion, would be the minimum charges for entertainment under the auspices of the institute?

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience and thanking you for the favor of a reply, I beg leave to subscribe myself,

Your obedient servant,

PHILIP BERGE, M. D.

1802 Carondelet, corner Erato.

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RECTOR'S STUDY, CHRIST CHURCH,  
2409 MICHIGAN AVENUE,  
Chicago, October 6, 1897.

From what I have learned of the work which Miss Mathilde Smedley is doing for young Americans seeking instruction in art in Paris, I have no doubt that the enterprise is one well worthy of commendation.

CHAS. EDWD. CHENEY.

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MARCH 7, 1895.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Your plan of arranging an institute for American students in Paris seems to me not only a delightful one, but the realization of it will be a solution of many difficulties in the way of those who wish to make a thorough and competent study of art, and will through them be a valuable agent in our progress in America. Mrs. Keith joins me most heartily in approval of your plans and hopes of their utmost success.

Yours very truly,

CANDACE WHEELER.

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DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: It gives me much pleasure to see you so successful in this truly grand work and that your noble efforts have been crowned with just merits.

PAUL M. RUNION.

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NEW YORK, March 17, 1900.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
24 Iowa Circle, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: My talk with you yesterday afternoon was most interesting and encouraging, and I can not but tell you how much I appreciate the good work you have done.

Referring to the question of how to obtain the best results in securing plans for your building, I would suggest that you employ some one—the best man you can think of in the profession, either here or in Paris—to form a written programme, giving the conditions of a competition; that is to say, specifying the number of drawings needed and the kind of drawings; also giving a programme of the plot and a full description of the building desired, and that when this programme has been written that you invite everybody to compete, and finally ask the jury of the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris to select from these drawings made in competition the best one for your building. This, I believe, would give the most satisfactory result.

Wishing you every further success in your enterprise, with kindest regards, believe me,

Very sincerely, yours,

THOMAS HASTINGS.

AMERICAN FINE ARTS SOCIETY,  
New York, March, 19, 1900.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
No. 24 Iowa Circle, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I heartily congratulate you upon the great success achieved in Paris in securing the land for the American (Prix de Paris) Institute. Of course I realize that the land is secured only on the condition that a fund for the building is forthcoming, either from private subscriptions or Government appropriation.

The proposed institute, if properly organized, will, in my opinion, be of great usefulness, not only in elevating the standard of art in this country, but also in cementing the cordial relations of the two countries, and my personal cooperation will be gladly given on the condition which I emphasized in a former letter to you, namely, that the enterprise be so organized and safeguarded that the advantages shall accrue to the most deserving and talented students.

I am, very truly, yours,

HOWARD RUSSELL BUTLER.

J. SCOTT HARTLEY, *Sculptor*:

Knowing from personal observation the need of such an institute and believing thoroughly in Miss Smedley, I am happy to express my sympathy with the scheme.

ELIZABETH W. CHOMPNEY.

[Extract of letter from M. Van Vechten Olcott.]

November 15, 1897.

\* \* \* \* \*  
If I criticised the circular seriously I would suggest that there is not enough said in the petition showing the immense advantage that the satisfactory establishment of the institute in Paris would be to the United States as a nation. Probably, however, this will be dwelt upon in the personal conversation that must be had when Congress meets.

Yours, truly,

J. VAN VECHTEN OLCOTT.

39 BOULEVARD MALESHERBES,  
March 16, 1904.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Your sister, Countess von Daur, was here this afternoon at Mrs. Spaulding's "at home," and I asked her about your work, which has interested me so much. She told me that the final vote is soon to be taken by Congress, and I sincerely hope it may be favorable in every way to the establishing of the institution to which you have given so much labor and effort. This letter may serve you as an introduction to one of the Iowa Representatives, Mr. Hull, a very charming man, whom I met the past summer in Des Moines and who knows Mrs. Spaulding very well. I do not know his address, but you can find it, doubtless, without any difficulty. If you would like to see him, please do so, and tell him all about your plan. Tell him, also, how much we who live in Paris are interested in seeing the early founding of a governmental institution of this kind in Paris.

All our hopes are for the advance of American arts and for the advantage to American students in all branches which we expect to see realized by it. I do not doubt that we shall all hope to hear that the wisdom of Congress will soon have here established, beyond any question of doubt, an institute which can not fail for all time to be one of the richest and grandest centers of culture for American art and music that it is within the power of man to provide.

Wishing you every success, health, and strength to accomplish this object, I remain,

Very sincerely, yours,

T. H. SPAULDING.

Mrs. Spaulding joins also in kindest regards.

P. S.—You may also use my name as an introduction to Mr. Armstrong, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. He is a young man of much ability and promise, and may be able to say a good word for so eminently worthy a cause.

SAN DIEGO, August 10, 1899.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY.

DEAR MADAM: Will you kindly do me the favor to mail to my address a "circular of information" in regard to the "American National Institute," which is to be located at Paris, France.

I have several friends, who, as well as myself, are intensely interested in this beneficent project, and any favor you may be disposed to show us, by way of information, will be greatly appreciated by all.

Very sincerely, yours,

(Mrs.) AUBORA H. TODD.

PARIS, March 22, 1903.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Being at present a student of singing in Paris, I fully realize the importance and necessity of such a house as you propose to found conducted on the principles you suggest. It will be a great protection to American students coming abroad to study, who are oftentimes subjected to fraud and suffering.

With the most sincere hopes of its present prosperity and ultimate success,  
I am, yours,

BESSIE COFFIN MAISH.

22 AVENUE NIEL,

PARIS, April 11, 1892.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: If a word from one of the "American girls" studying in Paris can assist you in this good work, please accept it.

It is more of a necessity than one realizes before living here.

With best wishes for your success, believe me,

Most sincerely yours,

ANNA L. MORSE.

(Pupil of Mme. de la Grange.)

318 WEST TWENTY-EIGHTH STREET,

New York City, June 6, 1900.

DEAR MADAM: Will you kindly give me any information you can concerning the American Art Institute, as I am contemplating a trip to Paris to advance myself musically, and would like very much to know what it will cost me. Do you take boarders, or, if not, can you recommend some good boarding house and what they charge a week? I would appreciate an answer very much and hope you will favor me with one.

Yours, truly,

ELIZABETH V. WALL.

22 AVENUE NIEL, PARIS.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have been greatly interested in your project of an institute for American students and glad of the bent the place is taking. It will supply a need urgently felt by all who realize the conditions under which our American girls endeavor to study. The difficulties which beset the path of the newly arrived student are many, and the dangers are even worse for young girls who attempt, in the confidence in mankind inspired by our institutions, to guide themselves through a period of study in this Mecca of students. Many go unscathed, but numbers have lost health, time, and money in the vain endeavor to make a beginning of the intended work.

Miss Smedley's plan will prevent this and will be of incalculable benefit to our girls, and through our girls to our American nation. I would be very glad to join heart and hand in gaining friends for such an institution.

With cordial sympathy and hearty cooperation,

MARTHA DENNIG WOODWARD.

467 TOUCHY AVENUE,

Rogers Park, Ill., February 1, 1899.

MR. CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW,

New York.

DEAR SIR: Not knowing the address of any of the board of directors connected with the American National Institute at Paris for American girls I write you.

Is it ready to receive boarders, and what are the prices for board with study, and for board alone?

Respectfully, yours,

C. E. ADDY.

No. 6 RIVERVIEW TERRACE,  
Morris Heights, New York City, May 11, 1895.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have been recently reading of your efforts to establish a home for American girls to study art in Paris, and I feel a great interest in the work. As I am a comparative stranger in the city, I know of no way to inform myself concerning the matter, than to address you.

If this is not a liberty, I will be glad to have a line of information from you.

Yours, respectfully,

(Mrs.) FRANCES HARDIN HESS,  
Assistant Librarian, University of the City of New York.

THE VICTORIA, June 14, 1904.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY.

Iowa Circle.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: We were so hopeful of your being able to call last evening that it was in my thought to go down and escort you up. But it so happened that this was hardly practicable.

Accordingly, since at 7.30 (the hour named to your hostess) it would still be daylight, it was agreed that we might hope for you nevertheless.

We had all spent an evening in going through the published papers you kindly loaned us and were more than ever anxious for an opportunity to greet you in our simple and homely abode.

If you are to be in Washington on next Monday evening you may count on the family being at home to receive you and upon my bearing you company both going and coming. Or if some evening this week would better suit your convenience, and you will kindly give us a day's notice, we will all endeavor to be here and will accord you the warmest sort of welcome.

We trust that you are in excellent health, that your noble enterprise is prospering, and that in these golden days you find a large measure of compensation for the discomfort of an undue proportion of such as have been without precedent on the other side.

With kindest regards of the whole family and renewed assurance of our interest in yourself and your work, I am, most truly,

Your admirer and friend,

JOHN. W. HOYT.

RECTORY, CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER,  
341 WEST HOUSTON STREET,  
New York City, November 16, 1894.

When we sent forth one of our best women, and especially to that section of Europe which every true American loves, beautiful France, we say "Godspeed." Do your best and come back quickly.

Miss M. Smedley has been known to me for years. Her acts are convictions and her work God directed. I commend her as St. Paul did Phebe, for she has with her a shining Christianity. Her mission abroad is a noble one.

WALTER A. A. GARDNER, Rector.

(Hebrews xiii, 2.)

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.,  
August 24, 1900.

MISS MATHILDA SMEDLEY,

American National Institute, Paris.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Will you kindly send me information concerning the requirements necessary to entrance to the American National Institute established by you in Paris?

I have been studying singing in New York, since the death of my husband, preparatory to appearing in public as a necessary means of living.

Madam Tadski, the great German singer, has befriended me, and I have a letter of indorsement from her. As I have no further income for study I am looking with longing to your great institution for encouragement.

Hoping for an early reply, I am,

Very truly,

EMMA DAVIDSON NUCKOLS.

9 RUE DE FOURNEAUX, *February 7, 1899.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Your talk on Saturday night last was a revelation to me, as I did not know you possessed that rare gift of public speaking that held your audience spellbound for two hours. The more I think about all the splendid plans you have made the more delighted I am.

You are our art students' Moses to lead us out of the "land of ignorance into the land of success." It is certainly the greatest scheme of this century for spreading the interest in art all over the United States. We are looking forward to the finishing of the Institute building here in Paris with the greatest delight, and feel sure, with your indefatigable perseverance, all our hopes in that direction will soon be realized.

Wishing you good health to continue your efforts in our behalf, I remain,

Yours, sincerely,

ISABEL E. SMITH.

SEPTEMBER 17, 1894.

Miss SMEDLEY,

*118 West Eighty-fourth street, New York City.*

DEAR MADAM: With reference to the Paris Institute, I wish to make inquiry as to whether it would be possible for a person to go to Paris with the purpose of earning her own living and also to take a course of instruction in the Institute.

Yours, very truly,

GRACE D'ELLA COLE.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.,  
*September 22, 1900.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am so grateful for your friendly letter which reached me this morning. The tone of interest and kindness makes me more than ever wild to go at once. The \$500 is, however, a rather difficult obstacle, and I fear it will take me a year to have that much ready. I realize the futility of going to Paris or anywhere without being sufficiently prepared financially.

Sincerely and gratefully,

EMMA D. NUCKOLS.

LITCHFIELD, CONN., *July 30, 1894.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Will you please be so kind as to let me know the most economical arrangement possible that could be made for a young lady of very limited means who wishes to study French in order to teach. She has studied the language, but lacks practice in conversation, construction, and fluency. I should also like to know what advantages she would have for studying and speaking the language. If you will help me in this matter I will be under many obligations to you.

Believe me, yours most sincerely,

LILY CAPPS.

WEYMOUTH, *July 2.*

DEAR MADAM: I am inclosing a note given to me by Miss Erb, whom I met in London a few weeks ago. I told her I was thinking of going to Paris to take some lessons in singing, and she was kind enough to give me a letter for you. I have been staying at the seaside for a few weeks and I am getting tired of it. as I would like to start work again. I have not yet appeared in London, but have appeared with Hubelik (the famous violinist) and had a very flattering reception. Herr Gorrilitz (Hubelik's manager) predicted a grand future for me.

I only hope for its realization. Would you by return let me know your most lenient terms.

With compliments,  
Sincerely yours,

Mrs. C. N. KING (née Lill Sharp).

Address: Weymouth, G. P. 6.

P. S.—I must tell you I am an Australian and still keep to my stage name—Lill Sharp.

LONDON, May 29.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I beg to introduce my friends, Mr. and Mrs. King, of Australia. Any information or advice you might be able to give them would be greatly appreciated by me. I do not know that you will remember me, but I spent several very pleasant evenings at your home some time ago, being a friend of Mrs. Tolbot, of Pennsylvania, and Miss Florence Bell, of Chicago. Miss Bell seemed so delighted with her progress in music and happy surroundings; and as my friends are particularly interested in music, and Mrs. King is anxious to study with Marchesi, I thought it would be extremely pleasant for them to meet you.

I am, most sincerely,

DAISY E. EBB.

PARIS, April 2, 1893.

DEAR MADAM: This institute which I hear that you are about to start deeply interests me, I having been an art student in Paris and therefore know all the trials and many temptations which the student meets with, especially in those "Pensions de familles."

I had to pay 400 francs a month. True, it was more a private family than a pension, but still I was on the fourth etage and the food was very poor. Then the most dreadful part of pension life for the young girls who come abroad is, that they are sometimes thrown in with people who ruin not only their future but themselves, poor things, and therefore the sooner this institute is started the better, as the need is most pressing. As much as I can do in forwarding the cause, you will always find me most ready and willing to do, and I shall recommend your institute to all art students with whom I come in contact.

Very truly, yours,

IDA LURIG KLAHN,  
Singing Teacher, 105 Rue de Proug.

TUESDAY MORNING, October 1, 1895.

Miss SMEDLEY.

MY DEAR FRIEND: I wrote to you from this place where I am now stopping. I am undecided what is best to do. I want to go on with my music and am sure I can make a success of it, but money is the drawback. I am willing to study hard and do everything in my power to win.

Write and tell me what Mr. Thier said, and if he will give me lessons any cheaper.

Yours, sincerely,

MISS FOX.

HOTEL BEAUJON,  
8 Rue Balzac.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Mother has decided to take the room downstairs. I should like to know if it will be convenient for you to take me to Julian's academy to-morrow? If I do not hear to the contrary, I shall expect you sometime after eleven. Until then,

Sincerely, yours,

VIOLET LANGHAM.



208 BOULEVARD RASPAIL,  
December 1, 1900.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I wish to thank you for your efforts in our behalf in making such a pleasant Thanksgiving, and also Mrs. Jackson for that good Thanksgiving dinner and the kind hospitality that I so much enjoyed and which will always remain in my memory.

I thank you again and remain,  
Yours, sincerely,

DAVID W. HUMPHREY.

CONSERVATORY OF CHURCH MUSIC,  
139 EAST FORTY-THIRD STREET,  
New York, April 30.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: A very severe cold has prevented me from attending your meeting at Sherry's last night, the weather also being most inclement. You will succeed in your noble enterprise, for I do think that our better class of people are becoming gradually more art loving and willing to help art students with talent.

Wishing you every success,  
Yours, sincerely,

J. GRAF.

MARCH 29, 1901.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: If you will permit me, I will call on you to-morrow night with a charming young American girl, who wants to see if she can profit by studying at the Institute. To that end she would like to inquire in detail about the methods of admitting students and the system of study.

If you can receive us, you will greatly oblige.

Yours, sincerely,

LEE MCKELWAY.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, August 28, 1901.

HON. HORACE PORTER,  
Paris, France.

DEAR SIR: Not knowing the correct address of the United States consul in your city, J. K. Gowdy, I take the liberty of addressing this to you, with the humble request to kindly refer this to the consul or officer you may deem in proper position to respond.

I desire to know the names and addresses of any commercial or other schools in France teaching commercial correspondence. In fitting myself for a foreign correspondent I have to become familiar with foreign business methods, and this I wish to do through one of these schools.

Trusting you will be able to see that a satisfactory response reaches me, that you will not consider me presumptuous, and thanking you kindly in advance,

I beg to remain, respectfully, yours,

J. H. GEYSBECK.

25 RUE DUPHOT,  
April 30, 1900.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Please accept my thanks for the delightful evening passed at the Inauguration of the "Institut National Americain," to which you so kindly invited me. As it is impossible for me to have the pleasure of calling upon you to-day, I take this means of expressing my gratitude.

Yours, very sincerely,

MRS. E. J. LEVY.

BOULEVARD RASPAIL 203,  
October 11.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Fortunately I was one of the many American students that spent an enjoyable evening at the Institute last Saturday evening.

I am taking a regular painter's course at the Julian Academie in preparation for book illustration. Am heartily in accord with your good undertaking, and desire to do all I can to advance it.

Yours, respectfully,

E. EARLE HOGEBOOM.

PARIS, March 31, 1893.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: It gives me great pleasure to hear that you expect to open a house where American girls coming to Paris for the purpose of studying music, painting, or French can have a comfortable home without fear of being cheated in regard to the price of board or in any other way.

After a stay of several weeks in this city, during which time I was treated very dishonestly at my boarding place in a private family, I fully realize the necessity for such an establishment as you intend to have.

If I ever return to Paris I shall certainly make my home with you, and I shall tell all of my friends to do the same.

Very respectfully,

ABBIE POTTS.

PARIS, February 21, 1899.

MISS MATHILDA SMEDLEY.

DEAR MADAM: I wish to thank you for your interesting lecture on the "American National Institute" given at the studio of Mr. and Mrs. Smith; and also to express my appreciation of the successful efforts you have made to establish the institution upon a national and permanent basis.

I feel that the American National Institute will be of inestimable advantage to our American students and a credit to our great country. It will not only educate the individual students, but will educate our people at home to an increased knowledge and appreciation of art.

I hope to interest the people of my native city, St. Louis, Mo., in the institute, and shall take an early opportunity to send a letter on the subject to one of our leading daily papers.

My daughter is now in Paris studying and I hope in the near future she may be able to attend the American National Institute.

Sincerely, yours,

Mrs. HUGH ARMSTRONG,  
Miss MARIE L. ARMSTRONG.

NEW YORK, September 29, 1897.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,

New York City.

DEAR MADAM: Having carefully considered the magnificent educational work which you have so successfully inaugurated in Paris, I take pleasure in bringing about an affiliation between your organization and the American Patriotic Musical League.

As you are aware, the particular purpose of the league is to consolidate all existing educational, protective, and art organizations into a national institution which shall exert a controlling influence over all the arts involved in the entire system of public entertainment, to the end that its full educational and humanizing possibilities may be realized and that the condition of the many thousand persons involved in its operations may be improved. While our ultimate object is to build up American institutions to raise the standard of American production, I conceive your work to be not at all inimical to the fulfillment of our purpose, inasmuch as your central idea seems to be to make proper provision for the Americans who insist upon finishing their studies in Europe or are compelled to do so by the lack of fostering influences at home. With this understanding that the purposes of both organizations are fundamentally nonconflicting, and appreciating the advantages to American art and education which would arise from their cooperation, I have the honor to submit for your approval and adoption the inclosed form designated "Articles of association."

Very respectfully,

WINFIELD BLAKE,  
Secretary.

VILLA PARK, September 15, 1900.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: One of the memories I shall cherish will be the brief acquaintance with you, and I hope sincerely that the work upon which you have entered with so much zeal may be crowned with great success. Such an institution ought to fill a very important place in musical life and attract a great deal of attention from Americans contemplating the study of art in all its branches. There are so many students desiring a course of foreign study with no definite idea how to secure the best results, and this school will solve the problem.

Yours, truly,

MIRIAM CALLAHAN.

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ON BOARD THE STEAMSHIP PATRICIA,  
November 18, 1903.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: On leaving Paris I wish to thank you again for the many kindnesses showered on me while there.

So many girls go to Paris without any knowledge of the language, where or how to secure the advantages they are seeking, and thus much valuable time and money are wasted because there is not an institute for American students. In lieu of such an institute you are the best friend a student could have. My progress in French was very much more rapid, owing to the school in which you placed me. Altogether I could not have been more advantageously situated. My only regret was in leaving Paris before I could avail myself of all the advantages you had placed before me.

With my kindest remembrances and regards, I am,

Very sincerely, yours,

MARY WILSON.

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HON. A. G. FOSTER,  
Washington, D. C.

DECEMBER 30, 1903.

MY DEAR SENATOR: This will introduce Miss Smedley, of New York, who has been laboring for years to establish an American institute at Paris, and is seeking the cooperation of our Government. Any courtesies shown Miss Smedley will be considered a personal favor to me.

Thanking you in advance,

I am, very truly, yours,

J. J. SMITH.

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I am much interested in your enterprise, and think it an important advance in art education.

LOUIS C. TIFFANY.

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HON. WILL E. HUMPHREY,  
Washington, D. C.

DECEMBER 30, 1903.

MY DEAR SIR: This will introduce Miss Smedley, who is seeking the cooperation of our Government in establishing an American institute at Paris. Any aid that you can consistently give Miss Smedley will be appreciated by me.

I am, sir, yours, very truly,

J. J. SMITH.

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HON. LEVI ANKENY,  
Washington, D. C.

DECEMBER 30, 1903.

MY DEAR SENATOR: This will be handed you by Miss Smedley, of New York, who is seeking to have our Government establish an institute at Paris. Anything you can do, consistently, to aid Miss Smedley, will be appreciated by me.

Thanking you in anticipation,

I am, very truly, yours,

J. J. SMITH.

## HISTORY.

INITIAL WORK AND ORGANIZATION OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE,  
INCORPORATED 1895.

## ORIGINAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE, 1895.

Chauncey M. Depew, LL. D., 43 West Fifty-fourth street, New York; E. Walpole-Warren, D. D., St. James, Seventy-first street and Madison avenue, New York; Thomas Hunter, president Normal School, New York, Normal College, Sixty-eighth street and Madison avenue, New York; Gen. Joshua L. Chamberlain, ex-governor of Maine, Brunswick, Me.; Count von Daur, Van Dyke Studio, Fifty-sixth street and Eighth avenue, New York; Hon. John D. Crimmins, 40 East Sixty-eighth street, New York; John F. Dillon, LL. D., ex-judge of the supreme court, 195 Broadway, New York; Henry G. Marquand, president Metropolitan Museum, New York, corner Madison avenue and Sixty-eighth street, New York; Rev. Charles F. Hoffmann, D. D., LL. D., D. C. L., 31 West Seventy-second street, New York; Candace Wheeler, president Society of Associated Artists, 124 East Twenty-seventh street, New York; Mary R. Callender, 7 East Seventy-second street, New York; Caroline de Forest, 7 East Seventy-second street, New York; Helena de Kay Gilder, Century, Seventeenth street, Union Square; Mariana G. van Rensselaer, 9 West Eleventh street, New York; Frances A. Levy, 275 West End avenue, New York; Sarah E. Buckbee, 34 West Ninety-first street, New York; Elizabeth C. Edmund, Brunswick, Me.; Matilda Smedley, Van Dyke Studio Building, Fifty-sixth street and Eighth avenue, New York; Mrs. Walden Pell, Paris.

## THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS), PARIS, FRANCE.

Incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, 1895.

This organization approved by—

Edward Walpole-Warren, D. D.  
Mrs. Candace Wheeler.  
Chauncey M. Depew.  
Mary R. Callender.  
Caroline de Forest.  
Joshua L. Chamberlain.  
Henri von Daur.  
Thomas Hunter.  
Thomas W. Wood, president National Academy of Design.  
Emily James Smith, dean Barnard College.  
George B. Post, president American Institute of Architects.  
W. H. P. Faunce, pastor Fifth Avenue Baptist Church.  
John D. Crimmins.  
McKim, Mead & White, architects.  
H. J. Burrell, Collegiate Church.  
Carrere & Hastings, architects.  
Howard Russell Butler, president American Fine Arts Society.  
Chartran.  
R. de Madrazo.  
Henry Wolfsohn.  
R. E. Johnston & Co.

J. Maurice Grau.  
P. R. Uhler, Peabody Institute.  
A. J. Valch.  
H. Sylick.  
J. Q. Ward.  
Jno. S. Wise.  
Lillian Nordica.  
Edward Lauterbach.  
Alexander C. Morgan.  
W. H. Howland.  
Mrs. Walden Pell.  
Edgar Goodfield.  
Sol. B. Solomon.  
Lolo P. Brown.  
J. C. Knecht.  
George Brown.  
J. J. Smith, M. D.  
R. L. Solomon.  
Ada M. Brenzing.  
H. von Colzhaschan.  
J. H. Bouffard.  
Z. K. Waterbury.  
Z. Takito (Japan).  
P. Wood.  
Louise Patterson.  
A. M. Hume.

## MEMBRES HONORAIRES DU CONSEIL.

J. B. Eustis, ambassador of the United States to France.  
 M. Samuel E. Morss, consul-general of the United States.  
 M. Massenot, membre de l'Institut.  
 M. Théodore Dubois, directeur du conservatoire, membre de l'Institut.  
 M. Puvis de Chavannes, président de la Société nationale, Champ-de-Mars.  
 M. Paul Dubois, membre de l'Institut, directeur de l'Ecole des beaux-arts.  
 M. François Coppée, membre de l'Institut.  
 M. Sully Prudhomme, membre de l'Institut.  
 M. Benjamin Constant, membre de l'Institut.  
 M. Auguste Rodin, statuaire.  
 M. Camille Flammarion, chevalier de la Légion d'honneur.  
 M. Duc de Pomar.  
 M. Carolus Duran, vice-président de la Société nationale, Champ-de-Mars.  
 M. Gustave de Morsier, membre du conseil de la Société française d'arbitrage.  
 M. Jules Cambon, ambassadeur de France aux Etats-Unis.  
 M. Henri Houssaye, de l'Académie Française.

M. José Maria de Hérédia, de l'Académie Française.  
 M. A. Knaepfen, directeur des Musées nationaux.  
 M. Emile Soldi Colbert.  
 M. Georges Picot, secrétaire perpétuel de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.  
 M. Frédéric Passy, membre de l'Institut.  
 M. L. Laisney, avoué au Tribunal de première instance.  
 M. Arnaud de Fofard, avocat.  
 M. F. Adolphe Bocage, architecte, membre de la Société centrale.  
 Mme. Isabelle Bogelot, chevalier de la Légion d'honneur.  
 Mme. Kendall Champlin.  
 Mme. Camille Flammarion.  
 Mme. Baronne Seillière.  
 Mme. Comtesse de la Rochefoucauld.  
 Mme. James Jackson, founder and president of the "Woman's Exchange," Paris.  
 Mme. Madeleine Lemaire, membre fondateur du Salon, Champ-de-Mars.  
 Mme. Reusaude.  
 Mme. Blanc (Théodore Bentzon).  
 Mme. Juliette Adam, directrice de la *Nouvelle Revue*.

## MEMBERS OF THE WASHINGTON CLUB, WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY, 1900.

Mrs. E. B. Lee, president.  
 Julia Graham.  
 Alice Frye Browne.  
 Mrs. Fitzhugh Lee.  
 Miss F. W. Halyburton.  
 Miss Minna Blair Rickey.  
 Adele H. Vulte.  
 Caroline J. Heger.  
 Margaret Corse Beale.  
 Margaret Gillmore.  
 Mrs. Edmund K. Goldsborough.  
 S. L. Nichols.  
 Edith A. Hawley.  
 Esther A. Dorst.  
 Matilda G. Saxton.  
 Margaret M. Davies.  
 Anne B. Kennon.  
 Katie C. Stewart.  
 Annie H. Wagner.  
 Anna J. Westcott.  
 Hannah Cassel Mills.  
 Kate Kearney Henry.  
 Maud Thornhill Porter.

Clara Warren McNair.  
 Mrs. Richard Goldsborough.  
 Mrs. Leigh Robinson.  
 Virginia Miller.  
 Elizabeth G. Copellin.  
 Mrs. A. Colman.  
 Mrs. Georgia Roberts.  
 Mrs. M. Kirkup.  
 Mrs. O'Connell.  
 Mrs. Dolliver.  
 Mrs. Hitchcock.  
 Mrs. Hay.  
 Mrs. Connor.  
 Mrs. Hull.  
 Mrs. Clemmons.  
 Mrs. Burrows.  
 Mrs. Spooner.  
 Mrs. C. Roberts.  
 Miss May Roberts.  
 Mr. Lewis B. Reed.  
 Judge Wm. B. Matthews.  
 Mrs. Matthews.

It seems to me that the scheme and purpose of the National American Institute at Paris are, as I understand them, excellent, and that its success is in every way desirable.

W. D. HOWELLS.

## MEETING.

On the 16th of December, 1895, the board of trustees of the American National Institute met at the house of the Hon. Chauncey M. Depew. After the transaction of other business, the work that Matilda Smedley had accomplished was discussed and accepted, and she was unanimously authorized to continue her efforts and to receive subscriptions for the building as well as for the endowment of the institute, and that Miss Smedley shall be reimbursed all expenses incurred.

Approved by the board of trustees, as foregoing.

*Executive committee.*—Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, chairman; Rev. E. Walpole Warren; Gen. Joshua L. Chamberlain; Hon. John D. Crimmins; Miss Caroline de Forest; Miss Sarah E. Buckbee; Miss Frances A. Levy; Miss Matilda Smedley, ex officio; Count von Daur, ex officio.

*Members of the French committee, Paris.*—M. Félix Herbet, avocat à la Cour d'appel, maire du 5<sup>e</sup> arrondissement; M. Léon Cléry, avocat à la Cour d'appel; M. Charles Richet, professeur à la Faculté de médecine; M. Antony Ratier, sénateur, avoué au tribunal de la Seine; Mme. Marjolin (née Ary Scheffer); Mme. James S. Gibbs, former president Amateur Musical Club, Chicago; Mme. Demont-Breton, présidente de la Société des femmes artistes; Mme. Walden Pell and Miss Matilda Smedley, ex officio.

For all official correspondence address: M. Henry Vignaud, honorary member of the committee, first secretary of the United States embassy, 18 avenue Kléber, Paris.

NEW YORK, February 15, 1896.

*To the American National Institute, incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, December 9, 1895:*

We are in full knowledge of the enterprise founded by Miss Smedley and cooperate in the work to bring about a successful issue, which we believe will be a great power for good to deserving American students who will be sent abroad for study under proper restrictions, and will serve on a board of examiners as president of the National Academy of Design, Thomas W. Wood; president of the American Water Color Society, J. G. Brown; president of the Art Students' League of New York, George W. Breck; president of the Architectural League of New York, George B. Post; president of the Metropolitan School of Fine Arts, A. Francis Wattson, March 2, 1896; president of the Fine Arts Society, Howard Russell Butler; president of the National Sculpture Society, J. Q. Ward, March 4, 1896; president of Society of Associated Artists, Mrs. Candace Wheeler; first vice-president of the Municipal Art Society, William H. Coffin; School of Applied Design, Mrs. Duulap Hopkins.

## LETTER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

NEW YORK, January 31, 1896.

The undersigned trustees of the American National Institute, in addition to the formal vote authorizing Miss Smedley to continue the collection of subscriptions and contributions in aid of the institute, hereby offer the testimony of their personal approval and sympathy.

We have given earnest attention to the purposes and plans set forth by Miss Smedley and to the measures by which she has secured so admirable a beginning. She has labored zealously in this country to obtain a permanent charter and adequate support for this institute.

We heartily commend her to all who appreciate the value of this line of practical education, which in its scope and effect will be a great public benefit.

It is far from our wish to seem to encourage young girls to go abroad for study, and it is not the design of this institute to offer such inducements, but it will remain almost a necessity, certainly a persistent fact, that students who are obliged to make their talents for artistic work a means of support will be forced by what is almost a public demand to perfect their studies by a finishing course in Paris.

To those who know the condition of student life in that city an institute like this will warmly commend itself.

Miss Smedley has thorough knowledge of all the conditions to be provided for and has the cordial support of many of the most worthy and distinguished citizens of France in this good work. She should be sustained here.

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW.

THOMAS HUNTER, *president Normal College.*

MARY R. CALLENDER.

CAROLINE DE FOREST.

CANDACE WHEELER.\*

FRANCES A. LEVY.

HENRI VON DAUB.

M. G. VAN RENSSELAER.

JOHN D. CRIMMINS.

EDWARD WALPOLE WARREN, D. D.

Hon. HENRY G. MARQUAND, *president Metropolitan Art Museum.*

SARAH E. BUCKBEE.

E. C. EDMUNDS.

Judge JOHN F. DILLON, LL. D.

CHARLES F. HOFFMANN, D. D.

Gen. JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN, *ex-governor of Maine.*

PARIS, February 21, 1894.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am much interested to know that you have undertaken to found an institute for the American students in music and art. I shall use all my influence to help you to carry out your projects.

My experience will serve to show that there does not exist such an institution for the American students, for I have known many who have had to struggle against difficulties, and have been obliged to return home without having accomplished the purpose for which they came, whilst others almost died for want of proper nourishment during the time of study, and not for the want of means, for many have to stop where the table is so poor that they do not get enough to eat.

The bureau of general information will be invaluable, as through it the students will be well directed, and have protection from fraud and loss of time. Also, the course of lectures will place the student under the course of the best literature and culture of the day.

Knowing, from what I hear, that you are entirely qualified for this work. I would recommend parents to place their daughters with perfect confidence. The plan of the institution is unique in itself.

Yours, sincerely,

MRS. WALDEN PELL,  
1, Avenue Montaigne.  
MRS. O. R. PELL.

#### BY-LAWS OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS) AT PARIS, FRANCE.

[Incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, December 9, 1895, embodied in the new incorporation of 1904 by act of Congress, passed the Senate April 18, 1904, and to be amended as may be required.]

##### ARTICLE I.—*Trustees.*

SECTION 1. The number of trustees of this corporation shall be increased or diminished in the manner provided by law, but at present their number is \_\_\_\_\_.

SEC. 2. The first board of trustees shall by lot or otherwise divide itself into three classes, to hold, respectively, one, two, and three years. One-third only of the trustees shall be elected by ballot by a majority of the remaining trustees at each annual meeting.

SEC. 3. Vacancies in the board of trustees occurring during the year shall be filled by majority vote of the board at any regular meeting, or special meeting called for that purpose.

SEC. 4. The board of trustees shall meet every month, except in the months of August and September, on the first Wednesday. Special meetings of the board may be called by the president or on the written request of five trustees. The first Wednesday of January shall be the general meeting of the year of the board of trustees. Seven members of the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but at least six affirmative votes shall be necessary to pass any measure.

##### ARTICLE II.—*Officers.*

SECTION 1. The officers of this corporation shall be an honorary president, a president and four vice-presidents, a first secretary and a treasurer, a second secretary and an assistant treasurer.

SEC. 2. The title of honorary president is offered to the Secretary of State, the first vice-president to the President of the Senate (United States), the second vice-president to the Secretary of the United States Treasury, as perpetual titles and *ex officio*.

SEC. 3. In order to perpetuate the ten years of Miss Matilda Smedley's indefatigable efforts for the foundation of the American National Institute, and in the meantime having organized and sustained the preliminary house for three years—the corner stone of the institute—that her name shall stand on the rolls of the institute, founder, director-general, in perpetual remembrance of the benefaction established and her title continue founder and director-general, with *ex officio* rights; that she should exercise her influence in the future as in the past to keep up the interest in the work in securing scholarships, and fraternity between France and the United States.

SEC. 4. In consideration of having founded the institute, Miss Smedley shall have the right and power to propose two deserving students, who shall have their living and the privileges of the institute free of charge, and these two being called "Matilda Smedley scholarships."

SEC. 5. The president shall preside at all meetings of the board of trustees, and shall, under the control of the trustees, have the general management of the financial affairs of the corporation, and shall in general perform all the duties pertaining to his office.

SEC. 6. The acting president and two vice-presidents, the secretary and treasurer shall hold their offices for one year and until their successors are chosen and qualified. These officers shall be elected by the trustees by ballot at each annual meeting.

SEC. 7. In the absence or incapacity of the president, one of the vice-presidents, following the order of their election, shall perform the duties of that officer.

SEC. 8. In relation to the secretary-general, that in recognition of his untiring efforts of a period of seven years, Mr. von Daur shall be appointed first director in charge of the institute for a term of six years, with privilege of reelection if he so elect and conditions confirm.

That an underdirector shall be elected to act with him to secure the benefits of his knowledge and to be made acquainted with his commanding efforts to advance the American National Institute.

His profound knowledge of four languages, and principally the French, and his great experience in all matters concerning the study of art, literature, and science, have made him very valuable, and we believe he should be compensated with a similar position in this institution.

He has been intrusted with the secretaryship during the period of three years of the preliminary house of the institute, having given his valuable time to the work without any remuneration.

SEC. 9. The secretary shall keep a record, in books provided for that purpose, of all the meetings and proceedings of the board of trustees. He shall notify the trustees of their meetings, and shall attend to such correspondence of the corporation as the board of trustees shall direct, and shall in general perform all the duties pertaining to his office.

#### ARTICLE III.

SEC. 10. The treasurer shall have the custody of, and be responsible for all moneys, deeds, and other titles to property held by the trustees of this corporation, and also all books and accounts of the corporation, save such as shall hereafter be directed to be kept by the secretary or by the resident director of the institute in Paris, France. At each annual meeting he shall present a full statement of the affairs of the corporation. He shall have the custody and care of the seal of the corporation, and shall generally perform all the duties pertaining to his office. He may be required to give bonds in such sum as the trustees deem proper.

#### *Executive.*

SEC. 11. There shall be chosen from the board of trustees an executive committee of five, of which two of the vice-presidents and the secretary and founder shall be members *ex officio*, which committee shall in the interval between meetings of the trustees have charge and direction of the active concerns of the corporation, but they shall not act contrary to the instructions of the board of trustees nor inconsistently with its expressed policy.



They shall audit monthly the accounts of collecting and disbursing agents and bills for incidental expenses, and the approval of the chairman shall be the treasurer's warrant for payment thereof.

Sec. 12. At the meeting of the board of trustees in the house of the Hon. Chauncey Depew, December 16, 1895, it was decided by the committee that Miss Smedley should be reimbursed for all the expenses she would have to meet for the establishment of the American National Institute in Paris.

The late Rev. Charles F. Hoffmann read the address and committed the measure to the board of trustees, which was agreed upon.

Sec. 13. The board of trustees shall establish and enforce the rules and regulations for the direction and conduct of the institute in Paris and confer (correspond) with the director of the institute in Paris, giving him such instructions as may be necessary. (See Rules and Regulations hereafter.)

Sec. 14. The trustees shall appoint not less than three, and no more than five, persons of permanent residence in Paris, a majority of whom shall be citizens of the United States, who shall constitute an honorary council of residents, of which the American ambassador or the first secretary of the embassy shall be requested to act as president or honorary president ex officio, to which the director may submit questions of immediate local interest in the conduct and administration of the institute, and the advice and consent of a majority thereof shall be the director's full authority for the decision of such questions.

*Executive committee to be appointed by the trustees.*

The executive committee shall keep a minute of their doings, which shall be reported at each meeting of the trustees for their approval.

The assent of at least three members of the executive committee shall be requisite to authorize any measures submitted to their charge.

ARTICLE IV.—*Subscriptions.*

SECTION 1. Subscriptions shall be opened for the creation of State scholarships through legislation, in order that each State may become a patron of the work by securing at least one scholarship of \$900 or \$1,000 per year for the most deserving student of either branch of learning in the institute in Paris and submit such candidates to a competition by a special appointed jury of the respective State. All this money shall be trusted to the finance committee (treasurer) of the American National Institute, the income of which shall go to the maintenance and general expenses of the institute. The institute in Paris shall be in charge and under the immediate direction and supervision of the resident director. (See special rules and regulations for the institute in Paris.)

Sec. 2. Private scholarships already subscribed, as the Mrs. Walden Pell Prize, \$10,000; Mrs. James Jackson, also \$10,000; Mrs. Frank Leslie, \$5,000; Madame Baronne de Zedwitz, \$500. Further, all gifts in pictures, statuary, books, musical instruments, etc., shall be tendered within six months from the date when this corporation has been sanctioned by Congress and the board of trustees has been organized and had its first meeting.

Sec. 3. That said corporation is hereby empowered to acquire property, both real and personal, by deed, lease, devise, subscription, purchase, gift, or by any other lawful means in the United States and France; and, in particular, is empowered to succeed to the rights and to take over, hold, and administer all the property of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris), a corporation heretofore incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, including all its scholarships, subscriptions, bequests, gifts, and pledges, and ground conceded by the municipality of the city of Paris, France, seal and emblem.

ARTICLE V.—*Seal of corporation.*

The seal of the corporation shall be circular in form with the design of the emblem and with the words "American National Institute" and the figures "incorporated 19—." It shall be impressed on all certificates, concessions, and contracts on the part of the corporation, and on other papers by law requiring a seal.

ARTICLE VI.—*Amendments.*

Further details of organization or management shall be provided for in a code of by-laws, adopted by the trustees, which may be amended at any regular meeting thereof, notice of proposed amendments having been given at least two weeks previous to action thereon.

STATE AND PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIPS, GIFTS, BEQUESTS, AND PLEDGES TO  
THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE, PRIX DE PARIS.

The creation of scholarships existed long ago, and there are many given from private persons as well as from institutions all over the United States to enable students for a limited period to go abroad to finish their education. But such students receive little consideration in Europe; they go as far as their money reaches, and pay dear for what they seek. A great deal of time is lost in finding out just what they want to do, and sometimes the temptations of a great city lead them to lose the right path. When they finally place themselves under a good master, most of their money has been expended, consequently they are compelled to return home. But being once addressed to an institute whose organization will be under the protection of the United States Government, they will have the proper guidance and direction. The student will not only be highly estimated and receive the best consideration, but they will without unnecessary delay receive the best instruction this country can afford. The incorporators hope that in the future many of these private scholarships will be put under the care and control of the American National Institute.

The Institute de France, founded the 22d of August, 1795, has made it its principal mission to receive all the new discoveries and to encourage the perfection in the arts and sciences, literature, etc., and not only has the Government of France provided sufficient means, but many private persons have given great sums of money, being thus combined amounting to millions.

Through these wise and generous gifts and a well-founded organization competitions are open every year, as there are hundreds of thousands of francs in prizes to be awarded to the laureate work in all branches of art, literature, and science; but of course these competitions are intended for such men of talent who have already reached the standard of perfection in their respective line of culture.

No doubt once the American National Institute is in operation, such competitions will be opened for the encouragement of our American genius.

SCHOLARSHIPS, SUBSCRIPTIONS, GIFTS, ETC., OFFERED TO THE AMERICAN NATIONAL  
INSTITUTE.

Mrs. Walden-Pell, \$10,000; Mrs. James Jackson, \$10,000; Mrs. Frank Leslie, \$5,000; for the scholarship fund, Baroness von Zedwitz, \$500; Mme. S. Bensaude, Paris, an annual subscriber, a grand plané of the house of Erard in Paris; a Liszt organ, of Boston; works of Dr. Charles Richet, professeur de la Faculté de Médecine, membre de L'Institute; Mr. Julius Stewart, a picture; Mr. E. L. Weeks, a picture; Mr. F. A. Bridgmann, a picture; Mr. Charles Hollman-Black will give a concert at his studio; Mr. Jean Paul Laurens, a picture; Mr. Rodin, one plaster cast; Mr. Chartran, a picture; Mr. M. H. Allourd, a drawing or a modeled statue; Mr. Benjamin Constant, small study or picture; Mr. Raphael Collin, a study or a design; Miss Julia Beck, a picture; Mr. Carolus Duran, a study; Mr. L. Breithner will organize a concert; Mr. François Coppée (ses œuvres), his works; Mr. Puvis de Chavannes, a picture; Mr. L. Lee Robins, a picture; Mr. Symmour, a statue in plaster; Mr. Tony Robert Fleury, a picture; Mr. Jules Lefebvre, a picture; Mr. Walter Day, a small picture, Mr. Raffaelli, a picture; Mr. Ezikyl Rome, a bronze bust of Liszt; Mme. Anna de la Grange, will give a concert for the benefit of the institute; Mr. George Clairin, a picture; Mr. Ricardo de Madrozo, a picture; Mr. Anton Seidl, a concert at the Metropolitan Opera House for the benefit of the institute; Mr. T. Hollman will organize a concert for the institute; one collection of 27 helio-

gravures after fresco paintings by Paolo Veronese from the Villa del Conte Emo at Tanzolo, province of Treviso; a course of singing, three times a week, one hour and one-half, in favor of the pupils of the institute and reduction of one third of ordinary prices for private lessons by Mme Marguerite Yveling Rambaud, née De Barral; reduction of one-third in singing lessons for the institute, Mme. T. de Picciotto; Mme. Emma Eames Story will sing in a concert for the benefit of the institute; Mme. Pauline Gayraud Pacini will give lessons at half the price on the piano for the benefit of the institute; M. Massenet will give a concert for the benefit of the American National Institute; Mme. Emma Calvé will sing for the American National Institute; Mr. Ary Renan has promised a work of his father (Ernest Renan) for the institute; Mme. Bataille will teach at half the price for the pupils of the American National Institute; Mr. T. Machard, a picture; Mr. Leon Jancey, secretary of the Opera Comique, lessons in diction (half the price).

PLAN FOR RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE  
(PRIX DE PARIS).

CHAPTER I. Officers of the institute in Paris.

SEC. 1. Director in Paris. Prize students of the institute in Paris (pensionnaires).

SEC. 2. Allowance for the prize students. Travel.

CHAPTER II. Work of the prize students.

SEC. 1. General studies.

SEC. 2. Special studies concerning the obligatory work to be sent to America. Work and studies: Architecture, sculpture, painting, applied design, music, dramatic art, literature, languages, scientific instruction, and research.

CHAPTER III. Concerning the exposition of the obligatory work and studies at Paris to be sent to Washington. The report of the director in regard to the obligatory work and studies.

CHAPTER IV. Concerning the reserve fund. Measures to be enforced in case of nonfulfillment of the obligatory programme.

CHAPTER V. Rules and regulations in general.

CHAPTER I.

Officers of the American National Institute Prix de Paris in Paris (France).

SEC. 1. Director.

Prize students (pensionnaires).

ARTICLE 1. The American National Institute to be under the administration of a director.

(2) The director of the American National Institute in Paris to be appointed by the President of the United States on proposition of the Secretary of State and chosen from a list of candidates presented by the board of trustees and the jury of the institute.

(3) The director to be appointed for a period of six years.

(4) The director independent of his administrative functions shall exercise control over the studies and the obligatory work of the prize students. He shall have a special register with all details in regard to the programme as is set forth later in article 27.

(5) The vice-director shall perform all the duties of the director during the absence or inability to act of that officer.

In case of the absence or inability to act of the director and vice-director, the secretary may perform their functions and preside on the monthly meetings of the honorary council of residents.

VI. The secretaries.

Each branch of the institute will have a secretary; that of the young women to be a lady and that of the young men a gentleman. It will be their duty and charge to have all records of their respective section and keep all papers concerning the educational matters, conduct the correspondence as the director will charge them, and submit every act to his knowledge and signature. The secretaries shall have power to call to their assistance the curator in matters of correspondence and other administrative duties.

VII. The curator and librarian.

(1) In subordination to the board of trustees or the director, the curator shall have under his charge and superintendence the buildings and their contents, and shall have under his control its officers and employees.

(2) He shall have charge, subject to the director, of the receipt, the removal, arrangement, and preservation of the pictures, statues, casts, musical instruments, furniture, and the library.

(3) He, or some one designated by him, shall be present when the institute is open to the public on exhibition days and concerts, lectures, etc., and give information to visitors and see that all regulations are enforced.

(4) He shall conduct all correspondence relating to matters of art, music, and the library, and keep a record thereof, which at all times shall be subject to the inspection of the director and board of trustees.

VIII. The prize students of the American National Institute in the several branches will be provided with a free scholarship for a period of three years.

IX. Every prize student is obliged to leave the United States at the latest the 20th of November of each year, and has to notify the director in Paris of his departure and the steamer on which he takes passage; otherwise he would lose his right as a laureate student and the appointment at the institute.

X. Every prize student shall present himself (or herself) immediately at the institute upon their arrival in Paris, according to the certificate which will be then rendered after registry, and duly inscribed. After this registry the director reads to the prize student the rules and regulations which concern every student, and especially their individual branch of study, and gives them a printed copy.

XI. Married students can not become candidates for the Paris prize, neither present themselves for the competition. A prize student marrying during the period of his (or her) scholarship would lose it.

Sec. 2. Concerning the allowance of the prize student for travel.

XII. Every prize student who leaves the United States for Paris receives a sum of \$150 for traveling expenses.

XIII. The yearly allowance for each prize student at the American National Institute during his or her stay in Paris will be a total of \$900, which sum is divided as follows: (1) A yearly allowance of \$900, 4,500 francs. This sum is paid to the prize student in the following order: Annual allowance 2,400 francs, at the rate of 200 francs for each month, which sum each student will receive in cash to cover his general expenses and for study. Five hundred francs are kept back each year for the reserve fund, as stated later, of which will be kept an account at the end of the three years' study in Paris. (2) For board, 150 francs per month; per year, 1,800 francs; total, 4,200 francs. Besides this, each student will receive at the end of the year an indemnity for expenses of studies in proportion to the respective branch of study. For instance, painters and sculptors, from 100 to 500 francs a year; architects, from 100 to 600 francs a year; music, literature, science, or research, from 100 to 500 francs a year.

XIV. During the travel of the prize student he or she will receive 300 francs per month allowance.

XV. Architects or students for research or exploration will receive a special indemnity for traveling expenses not exceeding \$200. Each prize student will at the end of his term at the institute in Paris receive \$150 for his return to the United States.

XVI. No prize student can undertake a voyage or absent himself from the institute without a permit or a special authorization from the director.

XVII. The country and the purpose of such voyage must be strictly defined in these authorizations; any transgression or deviation of the programme would have as a consequence the dismissing of the prize student from the institute and entail eventually the loss of his scholarship.

XVIII. Each prize student shall be obliged during the first year of his term to remain in Paris. The second year permission can be granted to travel, but only for a determined period and specified programme with the authorization of the director, who will consult the board of trustees in America.

XIX. Musicians for composition, after having passed two years in Paris, may receive a supplementary scholarship, which will enable them to go to Italy, Germany, and Austria.

XX. The prize student, when traveling, must each month send a full account of his or her work; any transgression of the given programme would result in a partial loss or the total of the reserve fund.

CHAPTER II.—*Work of the prize student.*

XXI. (1) The prize student shall execute each year the work, the nature of which individuality and class are determined by special programmes revised and formulated for each year.

XXII. The work to be accomplished by the prize students shall consist (1) in general studies, in order to keep and develop their instruction and their talent; (2) in special studies, according to each individual branch of study, which will consist in their yearly obligatory work, as set forth by special programme.

XXIII. *General studies.*—The study and practice (through special organization) of the French language. The library of the institute is open every day for the students of the institute and is exclusively reserved to them. The gallery of casts after the antique in sculpture and architecture is open for the students every day. Lectures on history and archaeology, etc., are delivered for the benefit of the prize students.

XXIV. *Special studies.*—The studies, being the result of the given subject for the yearly obligatory work to be sent to Washington, will have to be strictly fulfilled according to the given programme, which will be published every year.

XXV. Studies of prize students who are in possession of a "private scholarship" at the institute for one or two years only are subject to special rules.

XXVI. The prize students, painters, or sculptors must submit their studies and sketches of their yearly work to the director; subject and dimensions have to be strictly observed.

XXVII. The prize student of architecture must notify the director of the monument which he intends to make the subject of his or her study.

XXVIII. The musician will communicate to the director the title of the work they propose to make the object of their study.

XXIX. The acceptance of the different subjects, their development and dimensions, will be noted in a special registry and they have to be signed by the prize student concerning him or her.

XXX. Every change in the programme must be communicated to the director and must be accordingly inscribed in the aforesaid registry.

XXXI. Each year, before the 15th of January, the director addresses a full report to the board of trustees, in which he will communicate the progress of the work of each prize student. It is desirable that the students give to the director every detail that concerns their individual branch of study in order to facilitate this report.

CHAPTER III.—*Exposition of the obligatory work of the prize students in Paris and in Washington—Report of the director of the American National Institute.*

XXXII. The work as by the given programme for each year shall be at the disposition of the director each year not later than the 1st of April.

XXXIII. Every year, on the 1st of April and during fifteen days following, the work of the prize students shall be on exhibition to the public at the galleries of the American National Institute in Paris. Every student not having obeyed the aforesaid rules and regulations will lose the right to exhibit.

XXXIV. Only such works are admitted to the exhibition as are prescribed in the given programme.

XXXV. Immediately after the exhibition in Paris the works will be sent to Washington and the board of trustees will decide which shall be kept (after having been exhibited for fifteen days) for preservation, and dispose of each work accordingly; or send them to the special State from which comes the holder of the scholarship.

XXXVI. The result concerning the obligatory work of the prize students in art, literature, music, etc., will be published in a report by the trustees after having been submitted to the President of the United States, and inserted in the official record, and will be communicated to the director for further publication at the institute in Paris.

CHAPTER IV.—*The reserve fund—Measures which can be put in force by nonexecution of the obligatory work of the prize students.*

XXXVII. The reserve fund will be reserved for a guaranty of the exact fulfillment of the given programme to each prize student. No one will have the right to appropriate this fund before the expiration of his or her term of pension at the American National Institute and having accomplished all obligation according to the regulations.

XXXVIII. The director having received all necessary information, exceptions can be made in favor of the students when the students could not otherwise finish their last year's study. One-half of said reserve fund shall be used by the students. The second part will be paid to them after their work has been accomplished and on exhibition in Washington.

XXXIX. If a prize student has during two years neglected to satisfy his obligations, his reserve, or the part of his reserve fund, will be returned to the treasurer.

XL. When it occurs that a prize student has not fulfilled his obligations during two years, the director will, in a report, notify the board of trustees, and it will be decided if he or she will have to lose the scholarship.

CHAPTER V.—*Rules and regulations established for the American National Institute.*

XLI. During their sojourn at Paris the prize students shall live in the buildings of the American National Institute and take their meals in common.

XLII. As the time of the prize students while at the Institute will be exclusively devoted to study or research, no speculative work shall be indulged in by them.

XLIII. The distribution of the rooms and studios will be made by the director, according to the special branch to which students belong.

XLIV. It will not be allowed to take any object, as books or notes of music, etc., which belong to the Institute, to rooms or outside the building, or to take away plaster casts, or pictures which are placed for general usage in the galleries, without the consent of the director.

XLV. Students are responsible for the furniture of their room or their respective studio, subject to an inventory at the expiration of their scholarship term.

XLVI. Students will take their meals in common in the Institute, to which they can not invite outsiders.

XLVII. It is expressly interdicted that students keep anybody at the Institute over night under any pretext whatever.

XLVIII. To maintain perfect order and safety the doors of the buildings must be closed at midnight. (For concerts, theaters, etc., special permit will be given by the director.)

XLIX. As prize students are given the immediate protection of our Government, it is hoped that their conduct will be irreproachable.

L. Every prize student who commits an act against the laws of the country in which he or she receives hospitality can, by report of the director to the board of trustees, lose their scholarship and be obliged to return home.

**PRELIMINARY HOUSE, 50 AVENUE D'ÉNA.**

**LECTURES, CONCERTS, AND RECEPTIONS GIVEN AND ORGANIZED BY THE  
AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE, PARIS, 1899-1900.**

[From the New York Herald, Paris, Sunday, February 26, 1900.]

**PRIX DE PARIS FOR AMERICA—SUCCESS OF MISS SMEDLEY'S EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH AN INSTITUTE HERE—INAUGURATION ON APRIL 27—AID GIVEN BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AND EMINENT FRENCH MEN OF LETTERS.**

*To the Editor of the Herald:*

We have much pleasure in informing you that, after seven years of unceasing effort, Miss Smedley has attained the end she set out to gain, namely, the establishment in Paris, for our American youth, of an institute corresponding to the French Prix de Rome.

She left a week ago on the *Normandie* for New York, carrying with her the official evidence of what France has contributed toward this end. Not only has she received the promise of numberless gifts of art and literature, as has already been stated, but the municipal council of Paris has now conceded the ground upon which to erect the building, offering the choice of 14 sites, the plans of which Miss Smedley is to lay before the home committee and the officials at Washington.

She is also the bearer to President McKinley of a resolution of sympathy and cooperation signed by the following illustrious men of France, representing the Academy, Institute, and the literary, artistic, and official worlds: Messrs. F. Brunetière, G. Boissier, José María de Heredia, Thureau Dangin, André Theuriet, Henry Housaye, Jules Lemaitre, Duc de Broglie Gréard, Vicomte de Bornier, Gebhart, Comte d'Haussonville, Mézières, Paul Bourget, Albert Vandal, Gaston Paris, Eugène Guillaume, Ludovic Halévy, Laviisse, Paul Deschanel, Sully-Prudhomme, George Clairin, G. Hanotaux, Georges Picot, François Coppée, Edmond Rousse, Vicomte E. M. de Vogüé, Albert Sorel, Comte de Mun, Léon Bonnat, Carolus Duran, Bartholdi, Benjamin Constant, Corman, Ed. Corroyer, Gérôme, Jules Breton, Jules Claretie, Marquis Costa de Beauregard, William Bouguereau, L. Lépine, Aug. Rodin, Emile Clairin, Joy V. Chelminsky, I. de Selves, Lyon Caen, Rocquain, Ravaissonmollien, Adolphe Guillot, Luchaire, Anatole Leroy-Beaulieu, Aucoc, D. Puech, L. Puech, Georges Leygues, Henri Roujon, E. Saglio, Docteur Ch. Richet, Docteur Albert Robin, J. Bernardi, Léon Cléry, Félix Herbet, Duc de Pomar, Georges Ohnet, Julien Pierné, René Lenormand, Emile Soldi-Colbert.

A meeting was held at the present house of the institute, 50 avenue d'Éna, on Tuesday, the 6th instant, to lay before the honorary council of the institute in Paris a summary review of the work accomplished and the expenses relating to it. Among those present were Messrs. Félix Herbet, avocat à la cour d'appel, mayor of the sixth arrondissement (Beaux-Arts); Sully-Prudhomme, Soldi-Colbert, and Charles Richet. After the transaction of business and the reading of the report of the municipal council, the house was inspected and was pronounced to be in an ideal and appropriate location, facing the place des États-Unis, and in its appointments a most excellent promise of the greater building.

It has undergone thorough repair, and a large salon has been added to it capable of seating 200, where lectures, conferences, and concerts will be given gratis by the first masters for the education of the students. There is a garden attached containing a smaller house, which has been transformed into studios and class rooms.

The many gifts of pictures, statuary, and literary work promised over their signatures by the most distinguished and talented men of both France and Italy have not yet been called in, but the members present were able to admire the library and the most valuable and unique collection of twenty-seven héliogravures, reproductions of the frescoes of Paolo Veronese at a villa of Treviso, given to Miss Smedley during her stay in Venice, last October, by Commendatore Barozzi, director of the Royal Museums, as a token of his acknowledgment of the work.

It was decided that, owing to the lateness of the season, the real school year begin on October 1, but that, in the meantime, students and teachers coming to Paris for the benefit of education could be admitted on and after April 1, when the inauguration will take place, the house being already open to visitors from 10 a. m. to 1 p. m. daily.

Before the close of the meeting there was a vote of good wishes to Miss Smedley for a safe voyage and a speedy return, with the signing of a declaration by the members for the continuation of their good offices. A vote of thanks to the press was not forgotten.

Lastly, Miss Smedley expressed her grateful appreciation of all that France and the members of the French council and committee in particular had done for the progress of the institute, and the honor conferred upon the work by having among these members His Excellency M. Jules Cambon, representative of France to her country. What is America's appreciation of their support and concession can best be shown by the following quotation from President McKinley's message on February 5, 1900:

"The United States Government building is approaching completion, and no effort will be spared to make it worthy, in beauty of architectural plan and in completeness of display, to represent our nation." It has been suggested that a permanent building of similar or appropriate design be erected on a convenient site, already given by the municipality, near the exposition grounds, to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American national Institute, for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study."

She also said how great was her regret that three of the warmest patrons of the work, Mme. Emilie de Morsier, Mrs. Walden-Pell, and the Duchess de Pomar, should not have lived to witness its final success, but, as their valuable assistance was indispensable to Miss Smedley, so would their memory be kept always fresh within the walls of the institute.

In carrying the evidence of the work to America, Miss Smedley leaves behind her a veritable host of illustrious supporters to cooperate in the best possible way for the completion of the final result—the greater building of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris).

#### INAUGURATION OF THE TEMPORARY PREMISES OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE, APRIL 27, 1900.

Mr. Sully-Prudhomme, the poet laureate of France, presided and delivered an address, in which he referred in his eloquent and classical language to Miss Smedley, the founder of the institute.

At the end of this opening speech he said: "The colony of artists of which you are directress will find in France the most cordial of welcomes

"Our compatriots, confrères of your own, feel that they will reap advantage from being associated in a permanent way with this select circle of artists from the United States."

He also congratulated Miss Smedley on her successful visit to Washington, where she has received such high consideration from the President, and makes himself interpreter of equal sentiments of sympathy of the Chief Magistrate of his own country.

Further, he expresses recognition in the name of the pensionnaires (prize students) of the institute, their unalterable gratitude toward Miss Smedley as the founder and director-general, and toward Mr. von Daur, the secretary-general, whose devotion and zeal is so efficaciously seconding her efforts, and also to her other coworkers, and concluded by hoping that France, who had aided the United States in gaining their independence, would in the sphere of art crown the intellectual and moral efforts of that aid by her example and traditions.

The distinguished composer, M. Massenet, took active part in making the musical portion of the evening's programme a success, accompanying the artists on the piano.

The United States ambassador, Gen. Horace Porter, Mr. Henry Vignaud, first secretary of the United States embassy; many prominent members of the Academy de France and the Institute; a select number of the American colony, and many students were present.

[Extract from *Le Petit Journal*, samedi, 28 avril 1900.]

On inaugurait, hier soir, le nouvel Institut national américain de Paris. Cependant, de nos écoles de Rome et d'Athènes, où les jeunes gens et jeunes filles de l'Union viennent, après concours, se perfectionner dans les arts, les lettres ou les sciences, avait, en effet, tenu à affirmer son existence à la société parisienne en la conviant, ainsi que la colonie américaine, à une fort intéressante soirée artistique.



Très vives sont les sympathies que le jeune institut, œuvre de la dévouée Miss Smedley, a déjà su grouper autour de lui; aussi, en réponse aux invitations lancées par le distingué secrétaire général, M. von Daur, une foule nombreuse se pressait jusque dans le vestibule du petit hôtel provisoire de l'avenue d'Iéna.

Non seulement avec le Général Porter, ambassadeur des Etats-Unis en France, les Américains et Américaines de Paris, se trouvaient présents, mais encore de très notoires Français, à commencer par MM. Sully-Prudhomme et Massenet, deux amis de la première heure.

Le poète Sully-Prudhomme s'est même fait l'éloquent interprète des sentiments unanimes de notre pays, en souhaitant une chaleureuse bienvenue au jeune institut, nouveau gage de l'amitié intellectuelle et morale qui doit unir deux grandes nations.

Quant à M. Massenet, il a été tout simplement le héros de la soirée, dont la partie artistique était presque tout entière consacrée aux œuvres de l'illustre compositeur. Le maître remercia, du reste, ses hôtes de cette attention en se chargeant lui-même de la partie d'accompagnement.

Une fois terminé ce concert, où furent notamment applaudis Mlles. Relda, Esther Fée, et Courtenay, M. Clarence et un débutant de grand avenir, M. Frank Pollock, on se sépara en buvant de grand cœur à l'institut et à ses organisateurs; on n'oublia pas non plus ses maîtres de demain, l'élite de nos artistes et de nos lettrés, qui veulent coopérer au succès d'une fondation si profitable pour l'Union et si délicatement flatteuse pour Paris.

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris, autorisé par l'Etat de New York, 9 décembre 1895.]

Le comité de l'Institut national américain prie M. ——— d'assister à la soirée d'inauguration de l'institut, qui aura lieu le 27 avril 1900, en son hôtel provisoire, 50, avenue d'Iéna, sous la présidence de Monsieur SULLY-PRUDHOMME, qui prononcera un discours. Monsieur MASSENET veut bien nous honorer de sa présence et accompagner quelques-unes de ses compositions. A 9 heures précises. R. S. V. P.

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris autorisé par l'Etat de New York, 9 décembre 1895. 50 avenue d'Iéna, en son hôtel provisoire, Place des Etats Unis.]

PROGRAMME DE LA SOIRÉE D'INAUGURATION, AVRIL 27 1900.—DISCOURS DE MONSIEUR SULLY-PRUDHOMME.

Mlle. Esther Fée: Violon, "Danse hongroise" (J. Brahms). Mlle. Relda, de l'Opéra Comique, et M. Frank Pollock: Duo, Madrigal, "Roméo et Juliette" (Gounod). M. Clarence, de l'Opéra Comique: Air "d'Iphigénie en Aulide" (Glück). Mlle. Relda, de l'Opéra Comique: "Pourquoi rester seulette?" (St. Saens). M. Frank Pollock: Cavatine de "Roméo et Juliette" (Gounod). Mlle. Esther Fée, accompagnée par l'auteur: Violon, Méditation, "Thais" (Massenet). Mlle. Courtenay, de l'Opéra Comique, accompagnée par l'auteur, air et gavotte de "Manon" (Massenet). M. Holman Black: (A) "Mainacht (J. Brahms); (B) "The Violet" (Mildenberg). Mlle. Relda, de l'Opéra Comique, accompagnée par l'auteur: Fabliau de "Manon" (Massenet). M. Frank Pollock, accompagnée par l'auteur: Air de "Werther" (Massenet). Mlle. Courtenay et M. Clarence, de l'Opéra Comique, accompagnés par l'auteur: Duo de "Thais" (Massenet).

Au piano, Monsieur Massenet et Madame Gayrard-Pacini.

INAUGURAL DISCOURS DE MONSIEUR SULLY-PRUDHOMME.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSEDEUR, MESDAMES, MESSIEURS: Miss Matilda Smedley, fondatrice et directrice de l'Institut national américain, m'a fait l'honneur de m'inviter à présider la séance d'inauguration de cette belle école dont le domicile provisoire, par le confort et le bon goût, promet une installation définitive sans rivale. Je sens profondément cet honneur, mais j'en suis à la fois intimidé et confus. D'une part, en effet, cette réunion n'est pas seulement familiale, elle m'impose par le caractère solennel que lui confère la présence de monsieur l'ambassadeur des Etats-Unis d'Amérique, si brillamment accompagné; d'autre part, ma qualité littéraire est-elle pour moi un titre suffisant à prendre ici la parole? Sans doute la poésie est à quelque degré parente de la musique, mais l'usage la distingue et l'exclut du groupe appelé

les beaux-arts. Il me semble donc que j'usurpe la fonction qui m'a été confiée. Elle revenait de droit à quelqu'un de plus autorisé que moi, à mon illustre confrère Massenet, par exemple, qui, plus prudent, sans sortir de son art, s'est assuré bien mieux, ce soir, le moyen de vous charmer, de vous édifier aussi, car il s'est adjoint de préférence des artistes américains, tous formés à Paris, afin que leur talent vous permit de pressager les fruits à venir de cet institut naissant.

Quel motif a donc pu déterminer en ma faveur le choix téméraire de Miss Smedley ? D'où me vient ce privilège ?

Peut-être a-t-elle pensé que, dans l'âme de tout artiste, quel que soit son instrument d'expression, équerre, ébauchoir, pinceau ou archet, tressaille une âme de poète, et a-t-elle voulu le rappeler aux pensionnaires de l'Institut américain en m'associant à cette fête inaugurale. S'il en est ainsi je la remercie de tout cœur d'avoir sanctionné par là le rapport de confraternité qui m'unit le plus intimement à eux. Ah ! certes, ils sont tous poètes par le plus noble objet de l'art, qui est d'aider l'espérance à dépasser l'horizon terrestre. L'échelle des jouissances que procure l'art commence à un plaisir tout sensuel de l'œil ou de l'oreille, à une caresse, pour s'élever, grâce aux liens mystérieux des sensations avec les sentiments, par le passage purifiant de l'agréable au beau, jusqu'au délice de la contemplation, jusqu'à l'ivresse de l'essor.

La poésie ne se contente pas d'attirer tous les arts dans son orbite, de les faire tous participer de sa nature et de son idéal ; son rôle, tel du moins qu'il m'apparaît, est plus ambitieux encore ; harmonieuse par essence, elle prépare et sollicite à l'harmonie toutes les relations humaines. Miss Smedley l'aurait-elle aussi deviné ? Sa fondation favorise mon rêve très cher de voir les grands peuples, dépositaires et représentants de la civilisation, spécialement les Etats-Unis d'Amérique et la France, communiquer le plus possible entre eux, non pas seulement par l'échange de leurs inventions et de leurs richesses industrielles, mais surtout par le plus haut commerce des intelligences et des cœurs.

Ce commerce spirituel réalise, à mon avis, le progrès capital des sociétés humaines. Progrès, hélas ! trop lent, car l'unanimité des peuples est loin d'être accomplie, et la paix n'est encore entre eux qu'un équilibre instable de leurs forces respectives. Aujourd'hui, néanmoins, malgré la diversité irréductible de leurs tempéraments et de leurs intérêts matériels, commence à s'établir, sur les questions supérieures, sur les principes de la vie morale, un indéniable accord entre les esprits qui forment l'élite des principales nations ; la conférence de la Haye en témoigne. C'est dans cette élite généreuse, en compagnie d'écrivains, de savants, de philosophes, que se recrutent les artistes, et c'est elle qu'il importe d'accroître sans relâche, car seule elle conserve intégralement et propage les caractères supérieurs qui distinguent notre espèce de toutes les autres et en constituent la primauté. Ces caractères, vous le savez, sont le respect de la justice, la recherche de la vérité pour elle-même et, enfin, le sentiment du beau, le goût la faculté d'admirer. Or, cette dernière aptitude est éminemment sociale ; rien, en effet, ne contribue davantage à rapprocher, à mêler les âmes, que l'admiration partagée. Il est aisé d'en apercevoir la cause. En présence des actions et des formes qualifiées belles, devant un sacrifice héroïque ou devant le Parthénon, à l'aspect de la Vénus de Milo ou à l'audition d'une symphonie de Beethoven, nous nous sentons transportés d'une extase délicate et grave à la fois. Nous pressentons alors une félicité suprême innomable, révélée, dans la belle action, par le triomphe surnaturel du vouloir bienfaisant sur l'instinct égoïste, et, dans la belle œuvre d'art, par la réconciliation des sens avec le sens moral, avec le principe divin de la dignité, qui leur emprunte ses moyens d'expression. En un mot, nous aspirons. Or, pendant qu'ils aspirent ensemble, les hommes ou bien confondent plus intimement leurs mutuelles affections, ou bien, s'ils sont ennemis, posent les armes ; ils renoncent à la haine pour répondre à un appel commun de leur destinée mystérieuse. Ils y répondent par des larmes pures qui lavent, pour un moment, les offenses. Il semble même que la communion morale engendrée par le culte du beau efface entre ses adorateurs toutes les différences ethniques et individuelles pour ne laisser subsister en eux que la divination d'une même cité céleste refusée sur la terre à l'espèce humaine, mais entr'ouverte, un instant, pour eux.

De ce point de vue les beaux-arts apparaissent comme des agents de civilisation quasi-religieux, et les artistes comme les ministres sacrés de la fraternité universelle, ministres inamovibles, dont l'action pacifiante a, depuis Orphée, Itinrus, Apelle et Phidias, devancé de l'Evangile et des sciences morales et politiques sur les relations civiles ou internationales. Aussi toute entreprise qui a pour objet d'unir les peuples dans l'étude et la création du beau sous toutes ses formes, si modestes qu'en puissent être les débuts, est sainte à mes yeux comme la poignée de grains dans la main du semeur.

Mais l'Institut national américain n'a même pas eu à débiter humblement ; il a commencé sur de très larges bases, at j'ai appris avec beaucoup de plaisir qu'elles ont

été récemment élargies encore. Il a été décidé, pour satisfaire à de légitimes instances, que les jeunes américains y seront comme les jeunes filles, appelés à partager tous les avantages intellectuels, toutes les ressources d'instruction qui s'y trouvent amplement réunies sans demeurer, bien entendu, sous le même toit que leurs compagnes d'école. Par cette annexion complémentaire l'esprit et le règlement de l'Institut national américain sont rendus aussi libéraux que possible.

La colonie d'artistes, dont vous êtes, Miss Smedley, la directrice, trouvera, soyez-en bien assurée, chez ses hôtes français l'accueil le plus cordial. Nos compatriotes, confrères des vôtres, sentent ce qu'ils auront à gagner eux-mêmes à un contact familial et permanent avec cette députation choisie du jeune génie artistique des Etats-Unis.

Pardonnez-moi de n'ajouter aucune vue d'ordre pratique aux réflexions précédentes: je suis un rêveur. En vous témoignant la sympathie admirative que nous inspire votre œuvre par sa portée esthétique et par sa noble contribution à la mutuelle amitié de deux grandes nations, je serais bien embarrassé d'unir le conseil à l'éloge; je m'en tiens à mon impression, et cette allocution est déjà trop longue.

J'y ajoute peu de mots pour la clore. Je vous félicite vivement des témoignages de sollicitude que vous avez recueillis dernièrement pour cette œuvre du chef de l'Etat dans votre patrie. J'ose me porter garant de dispositions aussi bienveillantes chez le premier magistrat de la nôtre. Je me fais, en outre, l'interprète de l'inaltérable reconnaissance des pensionnaires de cet institut envers vous, envers M. von Daur et tous vos autres collaborateurs dont le dévouement, zélé comme le sien, vous seconde si efficacement. Qu'il me soit permis enfin d'exprimer l'affectueuse fierté que j'éprouve à penser que la France, après avoir contribué à l'indépendante formation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique, va, dans la sphère de l'art, prêter à leur couronnement intellectuel et moral le concours de son exemple et de ses traditions.

SULLY-PRUDHOMME.

#### INSTITUT NATIONAL AMÉRICAIN. <sup>a</sup>

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris, autorisé par l'Etat de New York, 9 décembre 1895]

Madame James Jackson, fondatrice de la bibliothèque de l'Institut national américain, prie M—— d'assister à la matinée qui aura lieu le 21 juillet 1900, à l'hôtel de l'Institut, 50, avenue d'Iéna. De 4 à 7 heures. R. S. V. P.

<sup>a</sup> L'inauguration à Paris de l'Institut national américain ne fera que resserrer les liens intimes entre les deux Républiques sœurs. En tendant vers le rapprochement de l'âme française et de l'âme américaine par l'art et la pensée, le Prix de Paris aura secondé la fraternité des deux peuples d'une façon plus efficace que ne saurait le faire le traité diplomatique le plus ingénieux. Notre illustre collaborateur et ami, M. Sully-Prudhomme, en qualité de président d'honneur de l'œuvre, a su formuler avec cet accent pénétrant et intense de l'amour de l'humanité, qui caractérise son œuvre poétique et philosophique, le but, la signification et les tendances de l'académie américaine. Nous nous garderons bien d'affaiblir, en le commentant, cet exposé magistral et lumineux qui a si vivement impressionné tous les participants de la fête d'inauguration où on pouvait voir groupés autour de l'ambassadeur des Etats-Unis, M. Horace Porter, les représentants les plus brillants des lettres et des arts en France. Nous nous en garderons d'autant plus que l'orateur, de même que les directeurs de l'Institut, ont bien voulu réserver à *La Revue* le texte de ce discours-programme, dont seulement un passage a pénétré jusqu'à présent dans la presse française et étrangère.

Nous profiterons de cette occasion pour rappeler que l'Institut a été fondé grâce à l'initiative et à l'énergie de M<sup>lle</sup> Smedley, qui n'a cessé depuis 1893 de travailler à la réalisation de cette idée. Après une série de voyages de New-York à Paris, elle est parvenue à l'imposer à la ville de Paris et à sa patrie dans leur intérêt commun. Aidée ensuite par le concours de M<sup>me</sup> Walden Pell, M<sup>me</sup> E. de Morsier et plusieurs législateurs américains, M<sup>lle</sup> Smedley a réussi à faire incorporer son projet dans les lois de l'Etat de New-York (le 9 décembre 1895). La protection accordée, dès le début à l'œuvre de M<sup>lle</sup> Smedley par le gouvernement français, la bonne grâce avec laquelle M. le préfet de la Seine a bien voulu mettre à sa disposition plusieurs terrains à son choix, la sympathie des grands maîtres de l'art et de la pensée en France et enfin le concours effectif et inappréciable de M. Henri de Daur, le secrétaire général du nouvel institut, ont permis de donner à cette Académie, dès sa fondation, une base solide et de lui assurer un avenir qui s'annonce durable et prospère. (Note de la rédaction.)

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris, autorisé par l'Etat de New York, 9 décembre 1895. 50, avenue d'Iéna.]

PROGRAMME DE LA MATINÉE MUSICALE DU 21 JUILLET 1900.<sup>a</sup>

*Première partie.*—M. Paul Wiallard: "Hérodiade," Vision fugitive (Massenet).  
a, Air du "Tasse" (Godard); b, "Hymne au soleil" (A. George). M. Clifford A. Wiley, élève de M. Paul Wiallard: "Since first I met thee" (Rubinstein). Mlle. Mimie Tracey: a, "La jeune religieuse" (Schubert); b, "Elle est à toi" (Schumann). M. Clifford A. Wiley: a, "Persian love song" (de Koven); b, "Thy beaming eyes" (MacDowell). M. Paul Wiallard, M. Clifford A. Wiley: "Le crucifix" (Faure). Accompagnateur: M. X.

*Deuxième partie.*—Mlle. Jeanne Bathori: a, "Fleur du matin" (Chaminade); b, "L'anneau d'argent" (Chaminade); c, "Ronde d'amour" (Chaminade). M. Paul Wiallard: a, "Rêve d'un soir" (Chaminade); b, "Berceuse" (Chaminade); c, "Immortalité" (Chaminade). Mme. Ronchini: a, "Villanelle" (Chaminade); b, "Viens, mon bien-aimé" (Chaminade); c, "L'été" (Chaminade). Au piano: Mlle. Cécile Chaminade.

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

[From the New York Herald.]

MATINÉE AND GARDEN PARTY ON JULY 21, 1900.

On Saturday, July 21, 1900, at the preliminary house of the American National Institute, 50 avenue d'Iéna, the committee of this institute gave a grand matinée musicale and garden party.

Miss Matilda Smedley, the founder and director-general, Mr. von Daur, the secretary-general, and Mrs. von Daur, and Mrs. James Jackson, founder of the library, were receiving the guests.

The lecture hall and reception rooms had been decorated with a profusion of palms and choice flowers, in which the French and American flags were intermingled.

In the well-shaded veranda going into the large garden the buffet was arranged, laden with dainties, and the ladies in most charming toilettes were to be seen taking their tea at little tables regardless of the high temperature reigning in Paris.

The musical programme had been arranged by Mr. Paul Wiallard, a distinguished French artist and a warm friend of the work. M. Wiallard, who is gifted with a most agreeable tenor voice, sang airs from Massenet's "Hérodiade" in a very remarkable manner.

Miss Minnie Tracey, the American soprano, gave the "Hymn to the Sun," by A. George, and other songs; and Mr. A. Clifford Wiley, also a most promising American artist, pupil of Mr. Wiallard's, bore evidence to his teacher's excellent method. He sang in a most sympathetic voice De Koven's "Love song" and other compositions. But it was a rare privilege indeed to the guests of hearing Madame Chaminade accompany a series of her own charming compositions, interpreted by Mademoiselle Bathori and Madame Ronchini, both accomplished artists.

The well-known pianist, Mr. Rudolf Panzer, played two of Liszt's compositions in masterly style.

The arrival of his grace Archbishop Ireland was greeted with applause, and being asked to speak, he kindly consented to do so, first in English and then in excellent French.

The Archbishop of St. Paul's commenced by saying that the Americans were undoubtedly an eminently practical and go-ahead people in all branches of industry and commerce, but that in regard to the "beautiful," they were obliged to cross the ocean and come to France in order to perfect themselves in the fine arts, and find the true "Mecca" for their intellectual aspirations and pursuits.

France has at different times already offered sympathy and encouragement to the committee of the American National Institute.

When the United States will have replied to the courteous and noble generosity of the town council of the city of Paris, after due deliberation on the part of Congress at Washington, we shall have the great satisfaction of erecting a permanent edifice for the Paris prize, and it will then become the highest ambition of our students to compete for this prize.

<sup>a</sup> Donnée par Madame James Jackson, fondatrice de la bibliothèque de l'Institut national américain, donatrice d'une bourse (scholarship).

This academy with its promising programme will then give us at no distant period a national reputation.

The eminent prelate then urged the Americans present to make it their duty to recommend this great work on their return home and to make their fellow countrymen understand that this institute will be not only an individual blessing, but also an absolute necessity for the American people, whereby their manners will gain refinement and their principles the highest elevation.

His grace ended by saying that he was glad to have noted a most promising basis of progress in the preliminary house so happily situated Place des États-Unis.

This progress was due to the indefatigable efforts of Miss Matilda Smedley, the founder of the work, whose acquaintance he had made five years ago in America at the outset of the enterprise; he also complimented Mr. von Daur, the secretary-general who had united his zeal and effort to hers in helping her in the organization of this gigantic work.

The archbishop also expressed his great satisfaction in recognizing the interest of Mrs. James Jackson in the work in having subscribed a scholarship and promised the foundation of the library of the institute.

Her noble initiative is most praiseworthy and should stimulate others to contribute according to their means toward completion and maintenance of the American National Institute.

Following are the names of some of the persons who assisted at this *matinée*, besides the students:

M. United States consul-general.  
M. Ed. Bruwaert, consul-general of France to the United States.  
Sully-Prudhomme, membre de l'Institut.  
A. H. de Villefasse, membre de l'Institut.  
Philippe F. Lott, membre de l'Institut.  
H. Daumet, membre de l'Institut.  
Charles Richet, professeur à la Faculté de médecine.  
Gaston Darbois, secrétaire permanent de l'Académie des sciences.  
Albert Carré, directeur du théâtre national de l'Opéra-Comique.  
Frédéric Passy.  
Dr. James Taylor, president Vassar College.  
Dean Crane, president Cornell College.  
M. Louis Herbette, conseiller d'Etat.  
W. H. Warden.  
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Eddy.  
Mr. and Mrs. Humphry Moore.  
Mr. L. Breitner.

Mr. Emory A. Clark.  
Mr. and Mrs. Clergue.  
Miss Clergue.  
Mme. A. Lecomte du Maury.  
M. et Mme. J. Rodin.  
Duc de Pamar.  
Mrs. Randolph and daughters.  
Madam von Pelt.  
Madam Temple.  
Madam Thomas.  
Madam Hussey.  
Madam May Wright Sewell.  
Major Truman.  
Marchioness of Wentworth.  
Count d'Oldhémar.  
Senator and Mrs. Dandurand, of Montreal.  
Mr. and Mrs. de Young, of San Francisco.  
Mr. and Mrs. F. Barry.  
Mrs. Barrett.  
Mrs. Lenard.  
Mrs. Bates.

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris, autorisé (Incorporated), 50, avenue d'Iéna.]

PROGRAMME DU CONCERT DONNÉ LE VENDREDI, 26 OCTOBRE 1900, À 9 HEURES DU SOIR.

En souvenir du 2 octobre, jour anniversaire de la naissance de feu Mme. Walden-Pell, présidente honoraire de l'Institut national américain, avec le généreux concours de M. Mounet-Sully, de la Comédie-Française; M. Renaud, de l'Opéra; Du Quatuor Boellmann, des Concerts-Colonne; Mme. Monteux-Barrière, M. Forest, M. Monteux, M. Kifer, Mme. Bataille et Mlle. Courtenay, de l'Opéra-Comique; Mlle. Cécile Talma.

*Première partie.*—Mme. Monteux-Barrière, M. Forest, M. Monteux, M. Kéfer, des Concerts-Colonne: Quatuor (Boellmann), I, Allegro un poco moderato; II, Scherzo; III, Andante; IV, Finale. Mlle. Cécile Talma: Air des clochettes de Lakmé (Delibes). Mme. Monteux-Barrière: Piano. M. Armand Forest, violin solo, de l'Opéra-Comique: Andante (Mendelssohn). Mme. Bataille: Habanera de "Carmen" (Bizet).

*Deuxième partie.*—Lecture du message de M. McKinley, président des États-Unis, concernant l'établissement à Paris de l'Institut national américain. M. Mounet-Sully, de la Comédie-Française: Poésie. Mlle. Courtenay, de l'Opéra-Comique: Air de la flûte enchantée (Mozart). M. Armand Forest, violin solo, de l'Opéra-Comique: (a) Romance (H. Wieniawski); (b) Airs bohémiens (Sarasate). Mme. Bataille: Valse du "Pardon de Ploërmel" (Myerbeer). M. Renaud, de l'Opéra: Chant.

Au piano, Mme. Gayrard-Pacini.

[Extract from the New York Herald, October 30, 1900.]

## CONCERT GIVEN ON FRIDAY LAST IN MEMORY OF MRS. WALDEN-PELL.

The concert given by the American National Institute on Friday evening in memory of the late Mrs. Walden-Pell, who was its honorary president, was quite a success.

The institute was highly favored by the presence of M. Mounet-Sully, who was greatly applauded for his marvelous diction, while the other well-known artists, who appeared by the courtesy of the directors of the Opéra and the Opéra-Comique, M. Gailhard and M. Albert Carré, and the Concerts-Colonne, were all appreciated.

The proceedings opened with a quartette exquisitely executed by Mme. Monteux-Barrière, MM. Forest, Montaux, and Kéfer. Then Mlle. Cécile Talma charmed the audience with the "Air des clochettes," from "Lakmé," being accompanied on the piano by Mme. Monteux-Barrière. A violin solo, one of Mendelssohn's andantes, by M. Armand Forest, of the Opéra-Comique, followed, and with contributions by Mme. Bataille and M. Louis Crépeux, the first part of the programme was brought to a conclusion. The second part of the evening's entertainment began by M. Mounet-Sully, of the Comédie-Française, reciting in his inimitable style "La ballade du désespéré" and "Une soirée perdue." Mlle. Courtenay, of the Opéra-Comique, was much applauded for her rendering of an air from "La flûte enchantée," as was also M. Forest, who played a romance by H. Wieniaski and "Airs bohémiens," by Sarasate. Mme. Bataille gave the waltz from "Le pardon de Ploërmel," and a song by M. Renaud, of the Opéra, brought the concert to a conclusion. Mme. Gayraud-Pacini presided at the piano.

The friends of the institute will be pleased to learn that the institute has recently received the following donations: From Messrs. Erard & Co., a grand piano; Messrs. Mason & Hamlin, of Boston, a Liszt organ; Mrs. Goodrich-Ormsby, \$200; also several objects of value from the Californian Commission.

## THANKSGIVING DINNER AT THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

PARIS, November 29, 1901.

*Contributors.*

Mrs. Edwin T. Purnam.	Miss Levey Humes.
Miss M. L. Graves.	Miss Margaret Humes.
P. Gaycard Pacini.	Mrs. A. P. Gregory.
Mr. and Mrs. F. Andrews.	Miss Elsie Gregory.
H. Chailley.	Miss M. Bernardine Thyson, Washington,
Maral Chailley.	D. C.
M. Stewart Rothwell.	Thos. F. H. Badjor, Montreal, Canada.
Vetha McMillan.	Jean Lesguier.
Fane A. J. Macfarlane.	Edmond J. P. Buron.
Howard McCormick.	S. A. Bolton.
Ennis P. Skidmore.	A. Juliet Howson.
Chas. W. Furlong.	Geneviève Booth.
Mr. J. Thornton Wood.	Teresa Tosti Pauger.
W. F. Pope.	Madame Mathilde Vet.
Mrs. Humes, 15 rue Auguste Vacquie.	Blanche Ogarita Vet.

## AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

[American National Institute, Prix de Paris, autorisé par l'Etat de New York, 9 décembre 1895.]

M—— est prié de bien vouloir assister à la réception, donnée en l'honneur du corps des gardes des Etats-Unis pour l'Exposition universelle 1900, par l'Institut national américain, en son hôtel, 50, avenue d'Iéna (place des Etats-Unis), le lundi, 10 septembre 1900, à 9 heures du soir. Musique.

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris, 50, avenue de l'Éna (place des États-Unis).]

RÉCEPTION, 10 SEPTEMBRE 1900.<sup>a</sup>

*Programme.*—M. Rodolphe Panzer: *a*, "Largo" (Chopin); *b*, "Jour de la Noce" (Grieg). M. Marcel Chailley, du Conservatoire, premier violon solo des concerts Colonne: "Czarda" (Jeno Hubay). Mme. Thérèse Tosti: *a*, "Lehne, deine Wange" (Jensen); *b*, Berceuse (Brahms); *c*, Habanéra de l'opéra "Carmen" (Bizet). M. Rodolphe Panzer: Rhapsodie (Liszt). M. Marcel Chailley: Romance (Svendsen). Mme. Thérèse Tosti: *a*, Intermezzo de l'opéra "Cavalleria Rusticana" (Mascagni); *b*, Variations (Proch). Miss Dana, of Australia, sang by request "Home, Sweet Home."

#### AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

RECEPTION IN HONOR OF THE AMERICAN GUARDS OF THE EXPOSITION, 1900.

At the American National Institute, September 10, 1900 (Prix de Paris).

[From the New York Herald (Paris edition), September 10, 1900.]

The American National Institute was last evening the scene of an interesting event in honor of the United States Guards in connection with the exposition. These gentlemen appeared in full uniform and seemed thoroughly to enjoy the following excellent musical programme: Mr. Rodolphe Panzer, piano; Mr. Marcel Chailley, violin; Mme. Thérèse Tosti, soprano; Miss Dana, of Australia, soprano (see programme attached). A short synopsis of the work of the American National Institute was given, which the guards understood and appreciated, as they are all young men from the different colleges in the United States.

They congratulated the coming generation in having provided for them an institution, which if carried out upon the principles laid down will shorten their term of study and place them on a par with their brothers in art, letters, and science of the Old World.

The buffet was served by young ladies, and after some interesting general conversation the guests took leave of their hosts, feeling that though far from their native land they had for a couple of hours enjoyed the sensation of being again on American ground, for the atmosphere of the institute is eminently calculated to give a feeling of home to all those who step within its doors.

#### LIST OF GUARDS.

Capt. P. L. Bowen.  
Ashelman, Paul.  
Aldrich, Sherman.  
Brussard, F. S.  
Block, Fred.  
Biers, T. Y.  
Babcock, Earl.  
Burn, C. H.  
Ballis, Eugene.  
Crawford, T. S.  
Crummer, E. P.  
Clark, H. E.  
Davison, Herbert.  
Drury, W. H.  
Delattre, E.  
Davis, A. D.  
Flenner, Nerle D. A.  
Franklin, H. O.  
Groesbeck, Fred. L.  
Greer, E. K.

Glenn, E. R.  
Glenn, R. A.  
Gorham, L. H.  
Hopkins, Allan.  
Hartigan, A. F.  
Harper, S. N.  
Jeffris, T. M.  
King, Albert.  
Krause, Hugo.  
Kerans, Frank.  
Limangi, Felix.  
Lyman, I. Q.  
Lambert, T. O. O.  
Lillard, W. H.  
McLean, Lester.  
Hyers, T. A. H.  
Moran, Thos. H.  
Muller, Joe.  
Marcutte, A. F.  
Manatte, Will.

McKee, W. M.  
Marcel, Henry.  
Nicol, Will.  
Nadeau, M. A.  
Pitkin, W. R.  
Rouillard, A. D.  
Rickel, Harry.  
Sutton, Mark.  
C. Smith, C. B.  
Sancy, Pierre E. F.  
Stover, Harry.  
Stauffer, E. S.  
Skinner, T. C.  
Sparks.  
Rosiere, Joseph.  
Chackwell, Paul.  
Carnowsky, Jacques.  
Waechter, Fred.  
Smith, C.  
Welsh, G. P.

<sup>a</sup> In honor of the American guards of the exposition at Paris, 1900.

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris (autorisé—incorporated). 50, avenue d'Iéna (place des Etats-Unis), Paris. Henri von Daur, secrétaire général. Matilda Smedley, directrice-fondatrice générale.]

Vous êtes prié de bien vouloir assister à une réunion qui aura lieu le vendredi 19 octobre 1900, à 5 heures, à l'hôtel provisoire de l'institut, 50, avenue d'Iéna, pour entendre la lecture du dernier message de M. McKinley, Président des Etats-Unis, concernant l'établissement à Paris de l'Institut national américain.

#### THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

[From the New York Herald.]

THURSDAY, November 29, 1900.

The Thanksgiving day was celebrated at the American National Institute, 50 avenue d'Iéna. About 40 students have been invited by the patrons of the institute.

The dinner was followed by an informal concert and Thanksgiving addresses.

The evening closed with a vote of thanks to Miss SMEDLEY, the founder of the institute, and to Mrs. JACKSON, the founder of the library, and Mr. VON DAUR, the secretary-general, the resolution adding that their mothers would be glad to learn they had enjoyed on French soil a real American Thanksgiving dinner.

#### AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

LECTURE BY PROFESSOR MAURICE ALBERT ON THE COMÉDIE FRANÇAISE.

[From the New York Herald, May 3, 1901.]

There was a great number of American students and invited guests at the American National Institute, May 3, to listen to a brilliant lecture of Prof. Maurice Albert, on the Comédie Française. Among those present were his excellency Gen. Horace Porter, ambassador of the United States; Countesse la Molière and daughter; Mr. Felix Herbert, maire of the sixth arrondissement; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Dubois; Marquis and Marquise de Castrone; Duc de Pamar; Mr. César Caire; Mr. Sully-Prudhomme; Mr. Charles Richet; Mr. Gaston Paris, rector of the Collège de France; Mr. Hollman Black; Mr. Franc Hollmann; Mr. and Mrs. Vignaud; Mr. Weeks; Mr. Bridgman, etc.

#### AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris, autorisé par l'Etat de New York, 9 décembre 1895.]

Vous êtes prié de bien vouloir assister à la conférence, avec auditions, sur la "musique hongroise," de M. ALEXANDRE DE BERTHA, avec le gracieux concours de M<sup>mes</sup> E. M. GIGNOUX, DE IERLIN, DE FONTJOYEUSE et ELISA TOTIS, vendredi, 31 mai 1901, à 5 heures, à l'hôtel provisoire de l'institut, 50, avenue d'Iéna.

LECTURE WITH AUDITIONS ON HUNGARIAN MUSIC BY THE FAMOUS COMPOSER ALEXANDRE DE BERTHA.

[Communicated.]

FRIDAY, May 31, 1901.

The lecture delivered on Friday last by Alexandre de Bertha on Hungarian music attracted a large and distinguished audience composed of a great number of American students and the élite of the American colony and Parisians. M. de Bertha began his lecture by saying that it gave him great pleasure to have accepted the invitation



of Miss Smedley and Mr. von Daur to give a causerie at the American National Institute, knowing that our mutual friend M. Sully-Prudhomme was one of our first patrons and had presided at the inauguration of this institute. That also because Hungarians are very fond of America. \* \* \*

Like a well-illustrated book the lecture advanced with a large number of compositions to explain the interesting text with historical and ethnographic references of profound knowledge. Mlle. M. E. Gignoux, the eminent composer and pianist, Mlle. de Jerlin, the well-known soprano, Mlle. de Fontjoyeuse, one of the best pupils of Miss Gignoux, and a young and talented violinist of Hungary, Mlle. Elsa Totis, brilliantly supported the distinguished lecturer and received great applause from the audience.

The 19th and 26th of April, 1901, two concerts given for the benefit of two young American girl students with a profit of 2,000 francs in order to help them to return to the States. Miss Blanche Ogarita Vet, pianist, and Miss Coralie Jacqueline Vet, violinist, Mr. Coquelin, cadet, of the Comédie Française, and Miss Relda, of the Opéra-Comique, have graciously consented to give their concours.

#### PROGRAMMES.

*Premier concert, 19 avril.*—Mlles. Vet: Sonate, opus 62, violon et piano—allegro, scherzo, adagio, finale (René Brancour). Mlle. B. O. Vet: Prélude et fugue, en la mineur (Bach-Liszt). Mlle. C. J. Vet: Concerto (allegro), opus 26 (Max Bruch). M. Coquelin, cadet: Monologues. Mlle. B. O. Vet: *a*, "Deuxième Rhapsodie" (Brahms); *b*, Menuet de "l'Arlésienne" (Bizet); *c*, Staccato caprice (Vogrich). Mlle. C. J. Vet: *a*, Aria (sur la corde de sol) (Bach); *b*, Introduction et Rondo capriccioso (Saint-Saëns). M. Félic Hughes: *a*, Air de "Serse" (Händel); *b*, "Carmen" (air du Toréador) (Bizet). Mlle. B. O. Vet: *a*, "Whims" (Schumann); *b*, Légende (Paderewski); *c*, Polonaise, opus 53 (Chopin).

*Deuxième concert, le vendredi 26 avril, 1901.*—Mlles. Vet: Sonate, en ut mineur, piano et violon—allegro, allegretto, finale (E. Grieg). Mlle. B. O. Vet: *a*, Nocturne (Paderewski); *b*, "Caprice pour la Reine Mab," dédié à Mlle. B. O. Vet (René Brancour); *c*, Petite valse, No. 3, dédié à Mlle. B. O. Vet (A. Strelezki); *d*, Prélude (Chopin); *e*, Etude (Chopin). Mlle. Rose Relda: Chansons (X.). Mlle. C. J. Vet: *a*, Réverie (Marsick); *b*, Scherzo, dédié à Mlle. C. J. Vet, accompagné par l'auteur (René Brancour); *c*, "La Mouche" (Bohm). Mlle. B. O. Vet: *a*, "Un sospiro" (Liszt); *b*, "Sixième Rhapsodie" (Liszt). Mlle. Rose Relda: Chansons (X.). Mlle. C. J. Vet: Rondo capriccioso (Saint-Saëns).

#### AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS.

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris (autorisé—incorporated). Miss Matilda Smedley, directrice fondatrice générale, Henri von Daur, secrétaire général.]

Vous êtes prié de bien vouloir assister à la soirée musicale et littéraire du jeudi 20 mars 1902. Audition d'œuvres de Mlle. M. E. GIGNOUX et de M. SAINT-CHAMARAND, Hôtel provisoire de l'Institut national américain, 50 avenue d'Iéna. 9 heures précises. Habit de soirée.

#### SOIRÉE DU 20 MARS 1902.

Audition d'œuvres de Mlle. M. E. Gignoux et de M. Saint-Chamarand avec le gracieux concours de Mme. Georgette Valdys, de l'Opéra-Comique; Mme. Astruc-Doria, Mlles. Charlotte Mutel, Jeanne Bloch et Fonlupt, MM. Ch. Morel, de Clynsen; Anemoyanni, Aigre, de la Haulle, des Concerts-Lamoureux.

*Programme.*—Par l'auteur: Préludes en ut mineur, en ut dièze mineur, en ut majeur (M. E. Gignoux). M. Ch. Morel: "Voix intérieure," "Madrigal" (M. E. Gignoux). Mme. Astruc-Doria: *a*, Sérénade (M. E. Gignoux); *b*, "Chanson du Chevalier Errant," Victor Hugo (M. E. Gignoux). M. Anemoyanni: Ballade (M. E. Gignoux). Mlle. Charlotte Mutel: "Minuit" (Saint-Chamarand); "Idylle fleurie et poudrée" (Saint-Chamarand). Mme. Georgette Valdys, M. Anemoyanni: "Nuit d'été" (M. E. Gignoux). Mme. Astruc-Doria, M. de Clynsen, Idylle guerrière, François Cazale

(M. E. Gignoux). Mme. Georgette Valdys, Mmes. J. Bloch, Fonlupt, MM. Anemoyanni, de la Haulle: Pantoum malais, Saint-Chamarand (M. E. Gignoux). Par l'auteur: Poésies (Saint-Chamarand). M. Aigre: a, "A l'aube; b, Presto (M. E. Gignoux). Par l'auteur: "Romance sans paroles" (M. E. Gignoux); second impromptu (M. E. Gignoux). Mlle. Charlotte Mutel, l'auteur: Hymne (Saint-Chamarand). Mme. Georgette Valdys: Dans un missel, Lancelin (M. E. Gignoux).

*Eglogue.*—Poésie de M. Saint-Chamarand, Musique de M. E. Gignoux, chantée par Mme. Astruc-Doria, M. Ch. Morel et les chœurs.

[From the New York Herald.]

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE,  
50 Avenue d'Iena at Paris.

There was a very brilliant musical soirée at the American National Institute last Thursday, the 20th of March, 1902.

The evening was entirely consecrated to the compositions of a very talented young French composer, Mademoiselle M. E. Gignoux, and her brother, known through his nom de plume, Saint-Chamarand.

In the absence of Miss Smedley, who is in America to represent the work at Congress, Mr. von Daur, the secretary-general and Mrs. von Daur, received the guests.

Among the artists who supported Miss Gignoux by rendering her work were: Madame Georgette Valdys, of the Opera Comique; Mademoiselle Connelly, Madame Astruc-Doria, Mlles. Charlotte Mutel, Jeanne Bloch, and Fonlupt, MM. Ch. Morel, de Clyncen, Anemoyanni, Aigre, and de la Hauble.

The distinguished audience consisted of the élite of American students and many members of the American colony, and the Parisian society.

#### AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

[Secrétaire général de l'Institut national américain.]

The committee of the American National Institute invites Mr. ——— to a New Year's dinner at the restaurant Véfour jeune, galerie de Valais, 105 à 111, Palais Royal, Sunday, January 4, 1903, at 1 o'clock p. m. precisely.

An immediate answer to Mr. Henri von Daur, secretary-general of the American National Institute, Sèvres, S. et O., Villa Brimborion, is requested.

N. B.—In case of acceptance this invitation must be presented at the restaurant.

#### AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

[American National Institute—Paris Prize.]

NEW YEAR'S DINNER, SUNDAY, THE 4TH, 1903.

*Menu.*—Potage St. Germain; bœuf braisé à la mode; céleri en branche; pomme à l'anglaise; dinde rôtie au cresson; cranberry sauce; mince pie; carte Palais Elysée; vin Macon et Chablis.

[Extract from The Figaro on the New Year's dinner of the American National Institute, Sunday, January 4, 1903.]

Sous les auspices du comité de l'Institut national américain un dîner de Nouvel An a été offert, dimanche dernier, chez Véfour jeune, du Palais Royal, à bon nombre de jeunes étudiants de la colonie américaine à Paris.

En l'absence de Mlle. Smedley, fondatrice de l'institut, qui est depuis un an en Amérique pour les besoins de la cause, c'est Monsieur Henri von Daur, le secrétaire général, qui a présidé ce dîner.

Après le repas, qui a revêtu un caractère tout-à-fait familial, Monsieur von Daur a expliqué aux jeunes gens, en quelques mots bien choisis, la raison d'être de cette œuvre et les bienfaits qu'elle est destinée à leur offrir. Ils les a exhortés en même temps à apprécier à sa plus haute valeur le généreux patronage des grands maîtres français. Son discours a été très applaudi et on a bu ensuite à la santé de Mlle. Smedley et des nombreux amis et bienfaiteurs de l'œuvre. La soirée s'est terminée par quelques recitations en français et en anglais.

Under the auspices of the committee of the American National Institute, Prix de Paris, a New Year's dinner was given to the American students of Paris at the Restaurant Véfour jeune, Palais Royal, Sunday, January 4, 1903.

In the absence of Miss Smedley, the founder, being in America in the interest of the work, the dinner was presided over by Mr. Henry von Daur, the secretary-general.

After the dinner Mr. von Daur, in a short address, explained to the students and invited guests the real purpose of the institute and its many advantages. He exhorted the young men to appreciate the great value of the distinguished patronage of France's great masters, who have assured their cooperation to the high advantage of their instruction. He proposed a toast to the health of the French jury and patrons and to Miss Smedley, the founder of the institute, just now in Washington occupied in obtaining the sanction of Congress, and further expressed thanks to our generous friends who have made this fête possible.

His speech was warmly applauded and answered by several invited guests.

The evening ended with some select recitations in French and English.

Among the guests of honor invited by the committee were Mr. Herbert W. Faulkner, vice-president of the American Art Association; Mr. Herbert Butler, of the committee of the American Art Association; Mr. Saint-Chamarand, French poet; Mr. Theodor Wm. Peters, American poet, and a great number of students.

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[New York Herald, April 18, 1899.]

MRS. WALDEN PELL.

*To the Editor of the Herald:*

I have the honor to inform you, and beg your most valuable paper to make mention, that by special appointment Mrs. Walden Pell, of the American National Institute, has been nominated "officier d'Académie" by his excellency the ministre de l'instruction publique et des beaux-arts.

The distinction is not only an honor to Mrs. Walden Pell, but to the whole body of our organization, the American National Institute, Prix de Paris, and in the name of our committee we congratulate our distinguished honorary president.

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STATEMENTS BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, SENATE,  
RELATING TO THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

[Extracts.]

WASHINGTON, 1902.

Senator ALLISON (*Chairman*).

Senator DEPEW. Some years ago Miss Smedley, Governor Chamberlain, of Maine, the rector of the great church at the head of which Mr. King used to be, and others, came to see me and asked me to take an interest in the matter of an American institute in Paris to take care of the students who go there. Going abroad every year and having quite a number of relatives living in Paris, I happened to know a good deal of the terrible conditions which prevail there with regard to about 3,000 American students who are always there. They go from all parts of the United States, boys and girls, without knowing anything of France or the conditions of the French capital. They have very little money; they have no friends, and generally they do not understand the language, but they go to study art and music. They go into the Latin quarter and fall into very bad associations, and the result is that many of them are lost to their families, to their country, and to the world. They never get back here.

Various efforts have been made by Americans resident there to remedy this difficulty, but they have never gone very far or amounted to much. The relief afforded has been only temporary, because the students had no funds, and the people who took the interest were themselves only temporarily there.

Miss Smedley undertook this plan some years ago, and after she had perfected her scheme and made some progress with it she came to New York and interested these people, who came to see me. Then I looked into it and thought it was an admirable thing, and began to give some attention to it myself.

Miss Smedley thought that she could interest the French Government and the French National Academy; and I told her that if she could do so I thought there would be some reciprocity or some recognition of it on the part of the United States. The result of her efforts was that a large number of the leading artists and literary men of France gave their adhesion to the scheme. Then the municipal

council of Paris took up the matter, and on the presentation of these Frenchmen, who are so highly respected because of their distinguished position in the art and literary world of France, the municipal council donated to this institute a plot of ground valued, I think, somewhere in the neighborhood of \$200,000. This was done with French enthusiasm, with the idea of showing the appreciation of the municipality of Paris of the fact that so many American students come to Paris instead of going to Berlin or Vienna or elsewhere to study. It was done also on the old theory, which is very strong over there, of Lafayette and the two Republics, and of a certain reciprocity between them in sentiment, at all events.

The municipality of Paris and all these distinguished Frenchmen—and I met quite a number of them when there—supposed that their action would be hailed with enthusiasm on this side and there would be a reciprocal response in the nature of putting a building upon this ground, which would herald to the world the new relations which had been established, in the sympathy on the one side and the recognition on the other of the help that was needed for these American boys and girls who were in Paris studying art and music under the great masters who can be found only there.

Miss Smedley brought this matter to the attention of President McKinley, and it resulted in his transmitting to Congress on May 23, 1900, a message, in which Secretary of State Hay said:

"I transmit herewith, with a view to its submission to Congress, should you deem that course proper, copy of a letter of March 28, 1900, with its several accompaniments, from Miss Matilda Smedley, founder and director-general, in regard to the proposed American National Institute at Paris. On this point Miss Smedley says:

"I need only remark that the French Government not only has granted a valuable site on which to erect suitable buildings in the city of Paris for the purpose indicated, but that it has made it possible that such a structure as you have so worthily stated 'to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American National Institute for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study' shall remain forever free from taxation."

Upon that subject President McKinley said, in his annual message of 1898:

"The United States Government building is approaching completion, and no efforts will be spared to make it worthy, in beauty of architectural plan and in completeness of display, to represent our nation. It has been suggested that a permanent building of similar or appropriate design be erected on a convenient site, already given by the municipality near the exposition grounds, to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American National Institute for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study."

After that message was sent to Congress—I had never seen the President theretofore—I went to see President McKinley, in company with Miss Smedley and the French ambassador, Jules Cambon. The French ambassador explained to the President the feelings of the French Government and the municipality of Paris on this subject, and Mr. McKinley expressed the greatest anxiety that in connection with the exposition and as part of the American contribution there should remain a permanent building upon the ground donated by the city of Paris for the students who should go from America to Paris.

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AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS),  
*Paris, le 6 février, 1900.*

The French committee met at the House of the institute, 50 avenue d'Iéna, on February 6, 1900, at 6 p. m.

Present: M. Félix, Herbet, avocat à la Cour d'appel, maire du 6<sup>me</sup> arrondissement (Beaux-Arts); M. Y. de Heredia, de l'Académie Française; M. Emile Soldi-Colbert, auteur de la Langue Sacrée; M. Sully-Prudhomme, de l'Académie Française; M. Charles Richet, M. D. professeur de la Faculté de médecine, membre de l'Institut; M. Henri von Daur, secretary-general of the institute; Miss Matilda Smedley, founder-director-general.

ORDER OF THE MEETING.

Reading of telegrams and letters of regret from Messrs. Léon Cléry, Massenet, Benjamin Constant, Mmes. Dumont, Breton, and Mrs. James Jackson on account of absence or illness.

Expressions of regret at the death of Mrs. Walden Pell, honorary president of the institute.

Opening of the meeting, followed by a retrospective account of the work from December, 1892.

## AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS).

1. Opening of the meeting by Miss Smedley, interpreted by the secretary-general, M. Henri von Daur.

Expression of gratitude for the generous support of the distinguished members of our French committee.

2. Notes on the history of the institute. Miss Smedley spoke first of the work at Mme. de Morsier's house before a gathering of distinguished women who would have wished it to be international, but in spite of this Miss Smedley has strictly adhered to her first conviction.

The first real meeting of the work was held in the drawing-room of the late Mrs. Walden Pell, who was its first patron, and subscribed \$1,000. The next meeting was held at Mme. de Morsier's on January 15, 1896, when it was decided that the persons present considered it their pleasure and duty to give their approval and intellectual support to the scheme of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris).

Among these persons the late Mme. de Morsier and Messrs. Herbert and Laisney were the foremost, and at this point Miss Smedley expressed to these gentlemen her grateful thanks for their valuable support, as also to M. Léon Cléry.

On the following Saturday Miss Smedley sailed for America, carrying with her this signed declaration for the purpose of organizing and incorporating the scheme, which she accomplished on December 9, 1896, under the laws of the State of New York, and on December 16 the board of trustees of the institute met at the house of the Hon. Chauncey M. Depew.

The meeting was opened by the learned Dr. Charles F. Hoffmann. After the transaction of business, the work that Miss Smedley had accomplished was discussed and accepted. She was unanimously authorized to continue her efforts and to receive subscriptions for the building as well as for the endowment of the institute.

The next meeting was held in Paris, at Mrs. Walden Pell's.

Here the minutes were introduced.

All this time Miss Smedley never lost sight of making the work national, and in March of the following year she again sailed for the United States, carrying with her, together with a letter from the prefect of police, showing that at the proper moment the work would be declared of public utility, the evidence of contributions (as per paper introduced) artistic, musical, and literary, with the determination of putting it before the Government, and did so, as per petition attached.

The success of her first efforts seemed doubtful, but she was convinced that a resolution signed by such well-known personalities as the following (copy attached) would ultimately secure the end in view.

With this conviction she returned to Paris, whither the secretary-general, M. Henri von Daur, had already proceeded. He, as a foreigner and familiar with the best schools of Europe, had at once seen the necessity for this great work and joined his efforts to hers.

The final result had been just what she anticipated, as is shown by the quotation from President McKinley's message.

Secretary Hay's letter and that of Senator Davis. (Copies attached.)

A petition was formulated by the secretary-general and Miss Smedley to the prefect of the Seine and Municipal Council of Paris to secure a concession of the ground upon which to build the institute.

3. The result of this petition follows, shown by the report of M. Clairin upon the meeting of December 27, 1899, and on the next day's vote of the municipal council of Paris. (Report attached.)

4. There was a discussion of the future of the institute and declaration that up to the present time it was an undoubted success, opening up new interests in the arts and letters to American students under the best conditions to insure the preservation of real talent and genius.

Miss Smedley had made a thorough study of the principles upon which the Prix de Rome had been founded, which made Paris the center of activity in art for the whole world. In this search she had realized that the fundamental evil in her own country was the absence of an organized censorship, and that America could only build up a Beaux-Arts at home by sending to this country her genius and talent already prepared under the proper conditions. She saw that to succeed the institute must be supported by public interest. She therefore tried to acquaint the public of the necessity of its existence, and to enlist the public of two nations her first effort had been to secure their leaders.

5. Discussion of the plan for the building, to be competed for either by French architects or French and American ones, as decided by the home committee.

6. Discussion of site, as to convenience, sanitary arrangements, etc.

7. Financial report from the beginning read and indorsed. (Report attached.)

8. Question of new circular discussed, to be published at an early date.

9. Inspection of the present house, most appropriately situated exactly facing the place des États-Unis, and put into thorough repair, with furnace, bathroom, and gas. A lecture salon has been added, with seating capacity for 200. There is a garden, with smaller building containing the studios, music, and class rooms.

10. Suggestion for the mode of application for the students.

It was decided that the school year begin on October 1, but that in the meantime the use of the house be allowed to students and teachers from April 1.

11. The members present expressed their satisfaction and admiration of the house and its arrangements, and especially of the emblem of the institute, composed and executed by M. Henri von Daur, the secretary-general. They also expressed their lively appreciation of M. von Daur's valuable services in helping to secure the ground, and his devotion to the cause for the last three years, with their wishes for the continuation of his good offices.

12. Reading of the letter addressed to President McKinley by the secretary-general, M. von Daur. (Copy attached.)

13. Expression of gratitude to Mrs. James Jackson, founder of the library, to Mrs. Frank Leslie, to Baroness von Zedwitz, and Baroness Seillière, as contributors to the scholarship fund.

14. Expression of satisfaction at the adhesion of so many illustrious names of France to the board of council.

M. Clairin's name was proposed and voted as a member of the committee.

15. Mention of Miss Smedley's departure for America to present to President McKinley the resolution attached, and reading of same. As also to make the incorporation a national one, and to formulate and put into operation a plan for State scholarships. Furthermore, to call in all the moneys already privately subscribed, and solicit further cash donations in order to maintain the present house and carry on the administrative business during the construction of the greater building.

The inauguration of the present house to take place upon Miss Smedley's return.

16. A vote of thanks to the press for its warm support, and congratulation to Miss Smedley for the success of her seven years' efforts.

To quote the words of M. Charles Richet: "This work is ideal, but an accomplished fact, which, while it was rendering valuable service to America, was crowning France with glory."

The meeting closed with good wishes to Miss Smedley for a safe journey and speedy return, and signing the following declaration:

#### DECLARATION.

The undersigned, met together on the 6th day of February, 1900, at 4.30 p. m., in the house of the direction of the American National Institute, hereby declare that it is their duty and pleasure to decide by the present resolution that Miss Smedley on leaving Paris place in the hands of her brother-in-law, M. Henri von Daur, secretary-general of said institute, the original signatures of the persons who have given their approbation of the measures taken in the establishing of the American National Institute, carrying with her a certified copy of the same.

The undersigned further declare that, as the branch committee in Paris, they are ready to continue their cooperation with the American committee for the regular progress of the work of which Miss Smedley is the founder and director.

Paris, February 6, 1900.

SULLY-PRUDHOMME,  
*De l'Académie Française.*

F. M. DE HEREDIA,  
*De l'Académie Française.*

EMILE SOLDI-COLBERT,  
*Auteur de la Langue Sacrée.*

F. HERBET,

*Avocat à la Cour d'appel, maire du 6<sup>me</sup> arrondissement (Beaux-Arts).*

CHARLES RICHEL, M. D.,  
*Professeur de la Faculté de médecine, membre de l'Institut.*

HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General of the American National Institute.*

Upon which Miss Smedley expressed her grateful appreciation of all that France, and the members of the French council and committee in particular, had done for the progress of the institute, and the honor conferred upon the work by having among these members M. Jules Cambon, representative of France to her country. Her country's appreciation could not be better expressed than by the quotations

from President McKinley's message and from Senator Davis's and Secretary Hay's letters. (Attached.)

In carrying the evidence of the work to America Miss Smedley leaves behind her a veritable host of illustrious supporters to cooperate in the best possible way for the completion of the final result—the greater building of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris).

[Close of the public hearing.]

#### EXTRACT FROM REPORT ON SUNDRY CIVIL APPROPRIATION BILL.

[Preliminary house, 56 avenue d'Iéna, Paris, France.]

Ten applicants sent by the United States embassy placed, according to their requirements, in the different schools and colleges, one only being admitted into the preliminary house.

During the existence of the preliminary house at least 150 applications were made by foreign students, but Miss Smedley and the secretary-general, M. Henri von Daur, have strictly adhered to the national character of the work.

In addition to the gifts already mentioned in the former reports, amounting to \$150,000, the firm of Erard & Co. have contributed a grand piano.

Form and material for a new circular ready and quite necessary to meet the demand for information concerning the institute. (Financial report attached.) Eight concerts given to July 15, 1901, 6 lectures up to same date, 3 dinners to students, 8 evenings for students, with refreshments, 4 students housed gratuitously, 35 young men entered their names as competitors for the Paris prize—Prix de Paris.

Students attending Julian's Academy granted reduction of one-third. In music and all other branches of education the same reduction has been made.

Two students granted free tuition, one for music, one for sculpture.

The sculpture student, Mr. Schouhardt, exhibited in the Salon, 1901, received a free scholarship from Mr. Ernest Dubois, sculptor. The studies of the music student, Miss Bell, enabled her to secure a lucrative engagement on her return home.

One art student, Miss Howson, at Julian's Academy, carried off a prize.

Eight teachers from America entered as students during the months of July, August, and part of September, 1901. [Letters attached, showing the benefit they received.]

Second school year opened in October, 1901, with return of the young men already mentioned and three girl students.

A month later three more girl students entered—one for dramatic art—all enjoying the reduction of terms as in the foregoing year.

Two hundred first-class concert tickets sent to the institute from the first empresarios.

Free entertainments corresponding to 1900.

One student young man saved from committing suicide—given three months at the institute.

One student sent home through charity.

During the last six months 120 students coming from America refused admittance as falling short of the required standard.

Concert given for two young ladies; the proceeds (\$400) helped them to continue their studies.

Four thousand visitors since the opening.

The foregoing has been enjoyed by the preliminary house, October 1, 1901, beginning of the second school year, and is now doing the same work at this date, January 2, 1902.

But for the invaluable and untiring efforts and devotion of M. Henri von Daur, the secretary-general, many of the difficulties could not have been overcome. The youths of America owe him a lasting gratitude.

Three thousand citizens of the United States have indorsed the work.

A special feature of the institute is the French language, taught after the newest and most rational methods.

As all studies in the institute will naturally be in the French language, it has been considered advisable to adopt it as the language of the institute. This study is free, and insisted upon after a certain time.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY SCHOLARSHIPS.

In addition to the three years' scholarship, a supplementary scholarship for a year's study in Rome, Venice, or Vienna to be founded, which will enable our laureate students to continue their studies in other art centers of Europe.

These scholarships will be awarded after due competition and under special regulations.

Music, architectural, and archeological students will be allowed, after the completion of their three years' tuition in Paris, a voyage to such countries as would best advance and complete their special studies.

M. Henri von Daur, the secretary-general of the American National Institute, was delegated last summer (1901) to establish correspondence with the directors and other proper authorities of the foreign art establishments with the intent of insuring their cooperation to this effect.

M. von Daur visited Venice and Vienna, and by the following report we are very happy to testify to the cordial support he met with in these two cities:

In Venice M. von Daur had the honor of being received by Cavaliere Giulio Cantalamessa, director of the royal galleries of this city. He also obtained interviews with Antonio dal Zotto, director of the Royal Institute of Fine Arts of Venice, and with Commander Nicolo Barozzi, director of the Archeological Museum at the Palace of the Doges. M. von Daur is proud to state that these gentlemen showed him every consideration with regard to his mission, and declared themselves ready to do everything in their power to further the progress of those American students who had proved themselves worthy to continue their studies in the respective art schools of Venice. Proper guidance and every facility for study will be insured to them. They will be granted free entrance to all lectures and to the galleries, with permission to make copies in the latter.

In fact they will enjoy the same privileges as in Paris.

M. von Daur received from Commendatore Ferdinando Ongania, the well-known Venice editor, the assurance that he would present to the institute a copy of his great work entitled "Monograph of the Basilica of St. Mark." The work is unique and universally admired by all competent authorities. It will certainly be highly appreciated by our art students and especially by those studying architecture.

Professor dal Zotto, who is the proprietor of the photographic publishing house "Naya," has promised to give us a collection of interesting photo-engravings representing the most celebrated architectural monuments of Venice.

Through the great courtesy of Mr. Henry Vignaud, first secretary to our embassy in Paris, Mr. von Daur obtained introductions to his excellency Mr. Robert McCormick, United States ambassador to Vienna. Mr. McCormick, with full appreciation of the usefulness of our work, immediately offered his influence on its behalf, with introductions to Prof. Caspar Ritter von Zumbusch, rector of the T. R. Academy of Fine Arts; to Mr. Richard von Perger, director of the Vienna Conservatory of Music and Dramatic Art; to Dr. Jacop Schipper; R. R. Hafroth (I. R. councilor of the court), rector of the I. R. University of Vienna.

The celebrated sculptor, Professor von Zumbusch, with great solicitude, introduced Mr. von Daur to Professor Hellmer, his successor at the academy, and also to Mr. von Stadler, one of the heads of the department for public instruction and public worship, and to Mr. von Wiener, court councilor and referee for the Austrian Government in all matters concerning the conservatory of music.

After explaining to these gentlemen the great aim and purpose of our Paris institute, Mr. von Daur, in view of the proposed year of study in Vienna, asked them for their generous support and collaboration, and was gratified to receive from one and all the assurance of their cooperation for the full benefit of our students.

Circulars and prospectuses of the lectures at the university, with the rules for admission of the conservatory of music and of the academy of fine arts, have been placed at our disposal for the archives of the American National Institute.

*Executive committee.*—Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, chairman; Hon. John D. Crimmins, Miss Caroline de Forest, Rev. E. Walpole Warren, Gen. Joshua L. Chamberlain, Miss Matilda Smedley, ex officio; Count von Daur, ex officio.

*Members of the French committee, Paris.*—M. Félix Herbet, avocat à la Cour d'appel, maire du 5<sup>me</sup> arrondissement; M. Léon Cléry, avocat à la Cour d'appel; M. Charles Richet, professeur à la Faculté de médecine; M. Antony Ratier, sénateur, avoué au Tribunal de la Seine; Miss Matilda Smedley, Henri von Daur, ex officio.

For all official correspondence address M. Henry Vignaud, honorary member of the committee, first secretary of the United States embassy, 59 rue Galilée, Paris.

A petition to the President of the United States of America by 100 students, wishing to compete for the prize.

Also a general petition to have the printed Official Document 398, State Department, carried out as first desired.

All committees, trustees, patrons, and jurors express their heartiest approval by the help they have given the secretary-general, Hon. von Daur, and Miss Smedley, the founder, who is sailing January 4 for the United States on the *St. Louis*.

The relation of the institute with the United States embassy is shown by the letters attached.



The committee and jurors wish Miss Smedley a safe journey across the ocean, a successful termination of her visit to Washington in behalf of the students, and a speedy return.

What answer are we to give the French authorities—officials, literary, artists, sculptors, architects, musicians—who have for five years given their support and approval to this institution, as is stated in the declaration presented to Mr. McKinley, signed by the most illustrious men of France, to say nothing of the advantages to our country and its student life—the gift of art—too numerous to mention, the first masters in many cases not charging anything for their teaching, and in all cases at a great reduction of price?

This enterprise originated with and has been promoted by Mathilde Smedley.

Under the patronage of Mrs. Walden Pell, Lady Caithness, Duchesse de Pomar, Mme. de Morsier, Mme. Bogelot, Comtesse de la Rochefoucauld, and others. Mrs. Pell began a subscription in its support.

The following names appear on the list of contributors:

Mrs. Walden Pell.	General Butterfield.	Miss Bryant.
Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt.	Mrs. Corbin.	Mr. C. de Tour.
Comtesse de Casa Miranda	Mrs. Richard Corbin.	Comtesse de Kergorlay.
(Mme. Christine Nilsson).	Mr. Paul Bagnotti.	Mrs. Bryden.
Mme. Armand Heine.	Tiffany & Co.	Mrs. Butterworth.
Mme. Michel Heine.	Baronne Adolphe de	Mrs. Stewart.
Lady Caithness, Duchesse	Rothschild.	Mme. Charles B. Alexander.
de Pomar, annual contributor.	Baronne Seilliére.	Mrs. Cullen Brewster.
Doctor Ryan.	Miss Reubell.	Mme. Phalen.
Mr. J. C. Goodrich.	Mme. Paul Sohège.	Mme. Cachard.
Netherland Steamship Co.	Mrs. Heath.	Mrs. Colgate.
An American Artist.	Mr. J. H. Harjès.	Miss King.
Comtesse de la Rochefoucauld.	Comtesse de Coetlogon.	Mme. Minnegerode.
Mrs. Monroe.	Mrs. Maxwell Heddle.	Mme. Melitta.
Mrs. Jotham Post.	Mrs. Green.	Mrs. Thompson.
Baron Hottinguer.	A Young Artist.	Mrs. Bryant.
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Mrs. Stears.	Mrs. Hopkins Smith.	Mrs. Hickson Field.
Mme. de Machado.	Mme. Pilé.	Mrs. Edward Hilton.
Mr. Frederick Palmer.	Mme. Coe.	Mrs. O. H. Ward.
Miss Ellis.	Miss Young.	Cleveland Osgood.
Mrs. Starck.	Mlle. de Moberger.	Mrs. Donnat.
"Widow's mite."	Comtesse de Trobriand.	Mrs. Caroline Babcock.
Mrs. Julian Story.	Comtesse Gillé.	Mme. Fourton.
Mme. Théodore Robin.	Mrs. Walsh.	Mrs. Sloane.
l'Abbé Péruchot.	Two Artists.	Roger Morgan.
Mrs. John Munroe.	Baron Salomon de Rothschild.	Comtesse Diesbach.
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Mrs. Van Hemert.	Mrs. Griswold Gray.	Comtesse Soltky.
Miss Anita Evans.	Mrs. Astor Bristed.	Mme. Alexandre.
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Mrs. Marion Story.	Comte de l'Angle Beaumanoir.	Mrs. Weeks.
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Mrs. Percy Hunt.	Mrs. Shilleto.	Norval H. Bussey.
Baronne de La Grange.	Mrs. Lorillard Spencer.	Mrs. General Vié.
Mme. Gillé.	Mrs. Moore.	Mme. Seignouret.
Mme. Bærs.	Mme. Surget.	Miss Anderson.
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Mrs. Oothout.	Comtesse de Gabriac.	Mr. S. Bensaude, annual contributor.
Mr. Brentano.	Mrs. Tevis.	Louis Tiffany.
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Richard Watson Gilder.	Mrs. Livingston.	Mr. Kneodler.
Miss Mary Roberts.	Bon Marché.	Thomas Hunter.
	Mrs. H. A. Huntington.	

To the amount of 36,114 francs (\$7,222). This was appropriated toward the rent of the preliminary house, thereby carrying out the wishes of our first honorary president, the late Mrs. Walden Pell.

The following names appear as contributors:

Mrs. Kendal.	Mrs. Dunlevy.	Mr. John D. Crimmins.
Mrs. French.	Mrs. Jackson.	Mr. Richard Watson Gil-
Mrs. Hockinhal.	Mrs. Miller.	der.
Miss Rose.	Mrs. Cassidy.	Mrs. Helen de Kay Gilder.
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Mrs. Morrill.	Mrs. Henri Von Daur.	Mrs. Smedley.
Mrs. Goodrich.	Mrs. W. H. Henderson.	Rev. E. Walpole Warren.
Mrs. Green.	Mr. Thomas Hunter.	

At the expiration of the three years' lease the preliminary house was closed, with satisfaction to all concerned, having demonstrated what could be accomplished under proper conditions.

All expenses in connection with the founding of the American National Institute during twelve years' labor (traveling, typewriting, printing, personal expenses), and in carrying on the preliminary house during the three years, have been supplied by Matilda Smedley, the founder and director-general, and Henri von Daur, secretary-general and delegate, other than the contributions which appear as set forth in this public document, printed by order of the State Department.

Began work, 1892; incorporated, 1895, New York; bill of incorporation passed senate, 1904; passed house committee on library, 1904 and 1905.

Closed public document, 1905.

(REVELATIONS, III, 8;

PSALM XCI.)

## PERSONS WHO HAVE APPROVED OF THE INSTITUTE.

- Adams, Col. Henry Hershell, U. S. Army.  
 Avery, Sam. P., jr.  
 Aimes, Helina Kirk.  
 Abbe, Catharine A. B.  
 Armstrong, Maitland.  
 Alexander, Julia F.  
 Andrews, Tuttille.  
 Atkins, Emma L.  
 Appleton, D., & Co.  
 Appleton, Dan. T.  
 Adella, Slater Good Shepherd.  
 Anderson, Walden Pell.  
 Armstrong, Collin.  
 Allen, J. P.  
 Adam, Mme.  
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 Anketele, Jones.  
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 Adams, Mrs.  
 Adams, Miss Mabel.  
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 Arnolds, the Misses.  
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 Brown, J. G., president Water Color Society.  
 Bolmer, M. de Forrest.  
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 Eurt, Mary K.  
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 Benton, Dwight.  
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 Cauldwell, Leslie Griffin.  
 Cox, Louise.  
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 Cliveden, B. W.  
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 Converse, F. M.  
 Conover, A. W.  
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- Collem, R.  
 Chaigneau, Ferdinand.  
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 Doughty, Miss Halcyon.  
 Doughty, Mrs. Alla.  
 Dillon, Mrs. John F.  
 Dillon, Anna Price.  
 Dexter, Signor.  
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 Duane, Julia D.  
 Dupont, Amle.  
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 Dey, Mary L.  
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 Evans, Effie M.  
 Eversfield, Mrs. Chas.  
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 Evans, E. C.  
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 Field, Mrs. Hickson.  
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 Frazier, Kenneth.  
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 Freund, John C., editor Music Trades.  
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 Grebe, Henrietta A.  
 Gildersleeve, Annie.  
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 Georgan, Horace E.  
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 Greer, Rev. David H.

- Goddard, Ralph B.  
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 Garcia, E. Harold.  
 Graf, Rev. Jos., Conservatory of Church Music.  
 Graf, F. L.  
 Gorlitz, Hugo.  
 Grandval, de.  
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 Hart, Effie J.  
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 Hands, Alice J.  
 Hiller, Helen.  
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 Howells, Mildred.  
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 Hopkins, Ellen Dunlap.  
 Hartmann, Elizabeth.  
 Hunter, Jennie.  
 Howard, Frances Gilman.  
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 Harcourt, Alice Fisher.  
 Holcomb, Mrs. I. W.  
 Harrington, John W.  
 Hlogwet, H. L.  
 Hartley, J. Scott.  
 Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. W. A.  
 Hills, Anna Bulkeley.  
 Houghton, William A.  
 Holbrook, Emiline M.  
 Hoy, Mr. J. M.  
 Howard, James G.  
 Huston, Anne E.  
 Havens, Mrs., and daughters.  
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 Hardon, H. W.  
 Huber, Emile A.  
 Howe, Estelle.  
 Henckel, Mr. and Mrs. G. A.  
 Harcourt, Mrs. William.  
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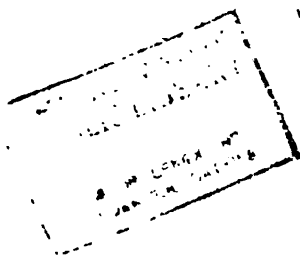
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1895-1905

AMERICAN NATIONAL  
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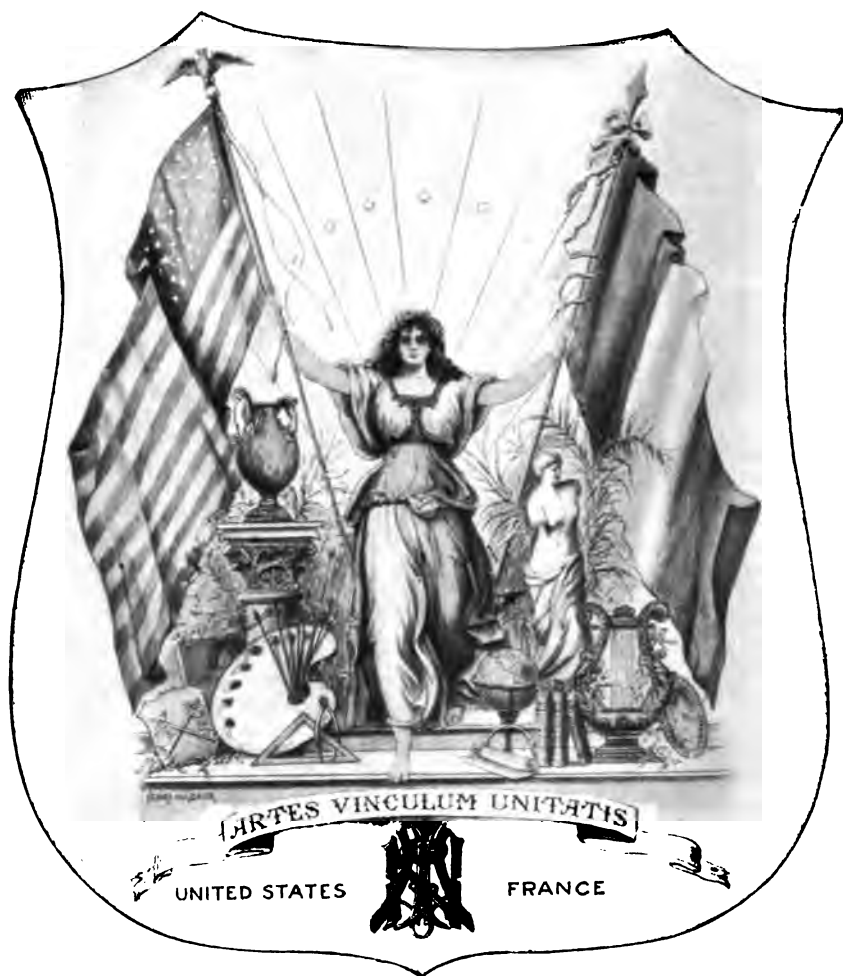
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Frontispiece.

1895-1905

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE, Paris

(PRIX DE PARIS)

(PARIS, FRANCE)

FOUNDED BY MATILDA SMEDLEY

184 m. 47.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF  
NEW YORK DECEMBER 9, 1895

Act to reincorporate passed the United States Senate April 18, 1904

\_\_\_\_\_  
HENRI VON DAUR, Secretary-General  
\_\_\_\_\_

WASHINGTON  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
1905

C. R.

[The American National Institute (Prix de Paris) for American Students.]

The "Prize of Paris" consists of a three years' scholarship, including tuition and all living expenses (similar to the Prix de Rome of France), and will be awarded upon competition. Its aim is to provide lessons from the greatest masters of France for such students as shall have most distinguished themselves at home. The working of the institute will be insured by a scholarship fund, either by private subscription or by the States of the Union, as may be legislated for by the States. Where it will be found to the advantage of country and student, a supplementary year will be added for travel and research.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*January 28, 1905.*

*Ordered.* That there be printed for the use of the Senate one thousand copies of Senate Document Three hundred and ninety-eight, Fifty-sixth Congress, relating to the American National Institute at Paris.

Attest:

CHARLES G. BENNETT, *Secretary.*  
By H. M. ROSE, *Chief Clerk.*

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*February 18, 1905.*

*Ordered.* That the reprint of Senate Document Three hundred and ninety-eight, Fifty-sixth Congress, first session, concerning the proposed American National Institute at Paris, shall include all new matter, so as to bring it up to date.

Attest:

CHARLES G. BENNETT, *Secretary.*  
By H. M. ROSE, *Chief Clerk.*

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*February 10, 1909.*

*Ordered.* That one thousand additional copies of Senate Document One hundred and sixty-seven, Fifty-eighth Congress, third session, concerning the proposed American National Institute at Paris, which shall include new matter, be printed for the use of the Senate.

Attest:

CHARLES B. BENNETT, *Secretary.*  
By H. M. ROSE, *Chief Clerk.*





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## AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE. (PRIX DE PARIS.)

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### PREFACE.

True education, as any thoughtful mind knows, does not imply mere familiarity with the facts taught by the sciences and the arts, but includes all things which furnish impulse toward what is true, good, and just.

We do not educate a man or woman by teaching them things they do not know, but by making them something more and better than they know how to call forth of themselves; by giving them the environment and opportunity to find themselves and the God-given talent and genius embodied in every soul. Everything which calls forth this power for good must be considered in the light of education.

We hold that the time has come that a national institution should exist to have a guiding influence over such gifts, because no such censorship has been established. The present manner of treating this tremendous force is such as to deprive it of any real educational value, and enlists it almost entirely in the service of avarice on the one hand and indifference and haphazardness on the other, thereby producing a chaotic condition affecting the good of the general public, and the well being of the student of science and the arts all over the country.

Realizing that the fundamental evil is a want of organized censorship, and that in this United States such an institution, to succeed, must be carried out on national lines—national pride—and built out of our own native talent and genius by fostering the best, and securing to the student that position and recognition such as Europe gives to their genius and talent.

This alone will overcome the necessity of importing foreigners to point us the way and to contribute scholarships for the development of our country's genius on scholarships abroad.

To accomplish this we have endeavored in the work of the American National Institute to enlist the leaders of the nation of the central government at Washington to help centralize this great army of human beings who should not be deprived of their birthright, but fitted by education to develop the native genius and ennoble mankind—who are being dwarfed, starved, and degraded—for we must confess that the gifts of God are many, and he who seeks his livelihood outside his natural gifts is either a mediocrity or a failure; hence this great discontent and this turmoil of poverty which millions are contributed yearly to foster.

The gift of rare genius is a force ever struggling to express itself for good or ill. A man born with the gift of a true statesman could no more be at his best as a sculptor than could the sculptor or architect be at his best as a statesman, and neither would make a financier

or leader of men in the financial world, as is proven every day by failures.

The time has come for beautifying Washington, our capital; but what will that beauty bring with it? for, without a national university, a national conservatory, a national theater, a national gallery, outside of the limited time of Congress it will only attract for a day the teeming thousands of wealthy citizens all over these United States, who, after a day's admiration of their country's capital, will sail across the ocean, seeking culture and the arts of Europe. Then why should we blame the gifted student for doing the same thing, though they may have to sacrifice (and is known), many times starve—even die—in this pursuit for development in so rich an atmosphere as Europe has to offer. They are only seeking success in their world, such as the financier seeks in his world.

We contend that the time has come for the Central Government as a center and head to take the lead—each State of the Union following, either by private contribution or legislation—establish a scholarship fund, to be given the prize student after competition—thereby creating a center in each State of the Union from which the student may be enabled to become the master, who will then devote themselves, and feel it an honor in so doing, to building up at the capital such institutions as every capital of Europe possesses.

The prize student will take pride in carrying out such a national work because the nation has done something to make it possible to become a prize student, out of which will evolve the master. Such a scholarship gives the opportunity for the student to come in touch with the activities of the arts and sciences of the Old World, by which they may be enabled to learn how to transport to our country that atmosphere only in which such institutions can live and rise to the best.

The unavoidable conviction is at times forced upon every struggling student of these branches of education that talent and true industry are not the qualities which command financial success, but find themselves held in little esteem by the public; by this their own self-esteem is weakened, and the soil is prepared for the sowing of weaker thought, if not evil. At this hour of temptation a strong arm is needed, and what stronger arm shall we enlist than our Government?

This is not an idea or theory, but a fact which has been abundantly demonstrated in the work of the American National Institute, as is set forth in this public document, which should be read by every mother and father in this great country; it is filled with the expression of the best brains of America, France, and of other European nations.

M. Jules Cambon, the former ambassador from France to this country, at the unveiling of the Rochambeau monument at Washington, spoke of the arts of his country with pride, and justly might he do so. Nevertheless, his expression gives us, as a nation, food for thought, and the first is, when will an American ambassador speak of American arts in the presence of some foreign nation? All the world listens when our finance is the subject, but when the arts, no one. Are we to forever blush and suffer national humiliation, even in the face of the superb talent that exists in this great country—largely dormant, or if at all active inciting little or no attention—simply because our Government has thus far neglected the high duty it owes its loyal citizens?

Shall our legislators find one excuse or another for not doing what their constituents ask of them?

Is there a man, woman, or child with the true American spirit who does not hope and pray that some day in the near future our representatives will respond to the universal cry of the people for national institutions in the arts and sciences?

Why should we, with our genius and vast wealth, fall behind all European nations, all of whom pride themselves in national fostering of their talent and genius? They know that these God-given gifts are more likely to be found in the peasant than in the rich or titled aristocracy; therefore they sustain higher class institutions in which the arts and sciences can be promulgated and finished.

We, as individuals, amount to what we can make of ourselves—as a nation we represent that which demands the full respect among nations, so when we seek to take our place alongside our neighbors, who sustain the atmosphere which fosters in higher education, we must be fortified with something more than the endowment of some private teacher or institution; we must tender the credentials of our nation. This, and this alone, will mean we have arrived at a national standard.

The exodus of thousands of students every year to Europe, and especially to Paris—the center of activity in art and science—for instruction, prove that there is a fundamental principle lacking, and we see in the different realization of the American National Institute in Paris, under national control, the only remedy for their condition.

Students who go to Europe are at the most critical period of their lives—left without any supervision—and for this reason we attach very great importance to the residential system of the American National Institute—where the flag of our nation will float—where the student will not lose sight of being an American and become swallowed up by other nations, for life in a foreign university is very attractive to the American student, especially when that friendly nation supplies the financial means for their environments.

This institute, through its well-planned organization, has for its object to direct and guide the student in that great city and by undergoing first at home an examination, as will be provided by each State through competition, there will be awarded to the best student a free scholarship for three years' study at the institute in Paris.

The students will be called "prize students," or "pensionnaires du Prix de Paris," as France calls their laureate students of the Prix de Rome at the Villa Medici at Rome. The fortunate prize winners will be able to receive all the benefits of this organization in a national institute, over which our nation's flag will wave, well protected from all temptations of a great metropolis.

After the three years' study in Paris a competition will be organized for one year supplementary scholarships of travel to other art centers of Europe, according to choice and usefulness for the competitors.

This organization will eradicate the evil of unwarranted experiments and keep many at home who will be better off and will not expose themselves to false illusions and deception or as a mere experiment or a pleasure trip to Paris, but a most profitable sojourn in that mecca of art, after having won the honor of being a prize student at home to go under the best auspices abroad.

The real purpose of studying in Europe should be to afford the diligent student that breadth of culture which is only attainable by a residence in foreign countries, and by the intercourse with the masters

of reputation of the Old World otherwise expressed they will find in European teaching additional elements of strength and knowledge.

Another fact that speaks for the utility of an institution like the proposed one is that Paris being so rich in institutions, in lectures of all kinds, the student who draws up in his respective State of America the programme of his studies in Paris, comes to a standstill, embarrassed by the multiplicity of programmes he has before him.

On the other hand, the different schools and faculties of France have courses of a somewhat similar nature which do not replace each other, but which at first sight are not sufficiently distinct for the student to know how to choose between them.

By the provision of a well-organized board of professors and a competent jury in the American National Institute no mistake or delay is possible, once a student enters this establishment as a prize scholar.

But it is not only for the study that we are anxious that our youth shall acquire perfection during a period of years at Paris, but also for what we might call "the art of life."

The United States have realized in certain respects a marvelous progress, a genius of invention prevails, and the spirit of enterprise, but they are carried away by the feverish activity of an existence which leaves little or no place for meditation.

Undoubtedly youth is always attracted to those who present the elements of arts and science with order and clearness, whose explorations dissipate all haziness in the minds of the students, laying before them, not the doubts and difficulties they passed through themselves before finding out the truth, but the acquired result of the struggle, that certainty which gives rest to the intelligence and forms a reliable starting point for the work and initiative of new generations. These are the essentially French merits which we fully appreciate.

Our students have often neglected that inner life, which they need, however, in which to find a refuge from the daily round to commune with himself by being still.

Nothing predisposes the mind to these general reflections like the artistic and historical surroundings of such an ancient country as France. Its history, in the cycle of centuries, has accumulated monuments and traditions which constitute an atmosphere whose vivifying influence no foreigner can resist.<sup>a</sup>

At the end of the eighteenth century, when the United States acquired her independence and commenced to organize her national life on a durable basis, it was with the help of France that this was accomplished, consequently we have old ties that legitimize a more intimate union between the two nations.

We can not refrain from our recommendation for our youth to devote themselves to the study of the French language and especially to those whose aspirations lead them to become sooner or later competitors for the Paris prize.

We are quoting a word on this subject from Thomas Jefferson, one of the most revered Presidents of the United States:

French is the language generally employed in all international communications. It has received the sacred deposit of human science in a larger measure than any other idiom living or dead.

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<sup>a</sup> Why have the Parisians such a keen perception of the beautiful? It is because they are brought up in a city abounding with galleries and art treasures, or, as a well-known writer expresses it, "The accumulated genius of ages."

When the time comes that our laureate students will live in the institute they will be well directed in their respective studies, but they will at the same time enjoy the life of the real Parisian population, and be enabled to discover many excellent qualities, such as are mostly ignored by the traveling foreigner who only lives in luxurious hotels while in Paris and often goes home with false impressions and prejudice against the French nation and their capital. Such will be the privilege of our prize students and the advantage over the average stranger. Besides the many resources of the best instruction that Paris can afford the student will find in the American National Institute many other valuable advantages, for instance, a well-stocked library, an art gallery with casts and pictures generously offered by the best masters of the day. Musicians will find good pianos and organs, and, what is most welcome to every diligent scholar, they will be able to study in a comfortable room to themselves after the agitation and noise of the day. What benefaction lies in this solitary reflection every scholar will understand.

But it would be rather cruel and perhaps even dangerous to isolate a large body of students from the warm cheeriness of hospitable homes without supplying right opportunities to develop and gratify the social being.

To this end entertainments will be given under the direction of accredited teachers such as are chosen under the direction of the institute.

At such entertainments the young students can give, outside of their regular lessons, proof of their ability for the benefit of others, and at the same time it will be an exercise for them. To be placed on the programme on such occasions will be the reward of excellency in their pursuits and will be a good incentive for ambitious students.

In order to facilitate and encourage every branch of study the knowledge of the French language is absolutely necessary, and to this end French masters will be engaged to lead the conversation at the table and at the recreation hours in addition to the regular study of the French language. Further, twice a month meetings will be arranged to which French students shall be invited, who will be recommended by the rector of the University of Paris.

Such an institute will not only give us great artists, but also competent teachers and a source of refinement and progress for future generations, whereby they will be enabled to walk hand in hand with those of the classic old continent.

There is no danger whatsoever that our students will lose their identity and love for their native country. On the contrary, they will learn to appreciate the United States for having generously provided means for the highest education, and they will bring home a multitude of elements to elevate our country and establish our nation's standard in supremacy in art, science, and literature, and thereby create environments to enrich our country on parallel lines with our progress and wealth.

The possibilities by following the scholarship program have been fully demonstrated during the three years' activity of the preliminary house at 50 avenue d'Iéna, all of which results are the outgrowth of twelve years' study and effort on the part of Americans who have always received the most cordial seconding of their efforts from the officials and people of France, as is shown by the accompanying public documents.



As an evidence of substantial interest in the work, the municipal council of the city of Paris has donated a site of ground for the express purpose, as set forth by the accompanying documents of, founding the institute, which documents have been accepted, and are now on file at the State Department. The work was indorsed by President McKinley, who, in his annual message to Congress, 1899, recommended the American National Institute. President Roosevelt has given his approbation, and all statesmen know it is a wise government that protects and harvests the talent and genius of its people and does not permit God-given endowments to run to waste through neglect or parsimonious provisions to secure the greatest good to advance the talent and genius of home and country.

## AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

In the Senate of the United States, on January 27, 1904, Mr. Frye, President pro tempore of the Senate, introduced a joint resolution to incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France, which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. The following bill was reported by the committee as a substitute for the joint resolution:

AN ACT To incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That Chauncey M. Depew, Thomas Hunter, Count von Daur, John D. Crimmins, Thomas Hastings, J. Clarence Goodrich, Charles P. Gardiner, Candace Wheeler, Mary R. Callender, Caroline de Forest, John M. Carrere, Frederick Smedley, Sarah E. Henderson, Sarah E. Buckbee, and Matilda Smedley, all of the city of New York, State of New York; and Joshua L. Chamberlain, State of Maine; and Henry Vignaud, of Paris, France, their associates and successors, are hereby created a body corporate and politic in the District of Columbia by the name of the American National Institute in Paris, France, with the right to implead and be impleaded, to adopt a constitution, by-laws, and corporate seal.

The objects of this corporation are to construct a building in said city of Paris, and there to provide favorable conditions of surroundings and direction for American students, to be admitted under proper certificates of examination of fitness by competition, and to facilitate their studies and training in the arts and sciences, including architecture, sculpture, painting, applied design, music, dramatic art, literature, languages, scientific instruction, and research.

Sec. 2. That said corporation is hereby empowered to acquire property, both real and personal, by deed, lease, devise, subscription, purchase, gift, or by any other lawful means, in the United States and in France; and to take over, hold, and administer all the property of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris), a corporation heretofore incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, including all its scholarships, subscriptions, bequests, gifts, and pledges, and ground conceded by the municipality of the city of Paris, France, seal, and emblem.

Sec. 3. That the incorporators shall have power to add to their number and to fill any vacancy which may occur therein by reason of death, resignation, or disability.

Sec. 4. That the corporation shall determine the times and places of its meetings, and shall determine the number, tenure, duties, and salaries of the officers, committees, and agents of the corporation.

Sec. 5. That said corporation may send annually a report to the Secretary of State, who shall communicate to Congress such portion thereof as he may deem of national interest and importance.

Sec. 5. That said corporation or board of regents may send each year to the Library of Congress, subject to the approval of the Joint Committee on the Library of the two Houses of Congress, or such place as may be decided upon, such works of the students of the institute as may be agreed upon between the jurors of the American National Institute and the board of regents as suitable for preservation and exhibition.

Sec. 7. That all gifts and bequests of money to the institute, unless otherwise directed by the donor, shall be invested in United States bonds, so far as may be consistent with the conditions of such gifts and bequests.

Sec. 8. That any scholarship, donated or bequeathed, shall be applied to that branch of education specified by the donor.

Passed the United States Senate April 18, 1904.

Attest:

CHARLES G. BENNETT, *Secretary*.  
By H. M. ROSE, *Chief Clerk*.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *April 19, 1904*.  
Referred to the Committee on the Library.

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[Report No. 1018. Fifty-eighth Congress, second session.]

MR. KEAN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, submitted the following report (to accompany S. 4594).

The Committee on Foreign Relations, to whom was referred the resolution (S. R. 35) to incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France, have had the same under consideration and report back a substitute (S. 4594) and recommend that it be passed.

In the Fifty-seventh Congress a similar measure passed the Senate.

Your committee beg leave to refer to Senate documents Nos. 121 and 126, Fifty-eighth Congress, second session, for further information upon this resolution.

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*Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.*

Shelby M. Cullom, of Illinois.  
William P. Frye, of Maine.  
Henry Cabot Lodge, of Massachusetts.  
Clarence D. Clark, of Wyoming.  
Joseph B. Foraker, of Ohio.  
John C. Spooner, of Wisconsin.  
Charles W. Fairbanks, of Indiana.

John Kean, of New Jersey.  
John T. Morgan, of Alabama.  
Augustus O. Bacon, of Georgia.  
Hernando D. Money, of Mississippi.  
William A. Clark, of Montana.  
James B. McCreary, of Kentucky.

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*House Committee on Foreign Relations.*

Robert R. Hitt, *Chairman*.

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

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L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

TRANSMITTING

A LETTER, WITH INCLOSURES, IN REGARD TO THE INCORPORATION OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS) AT PARIS, FRANCE.

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DECEMBER 22, 1904.

The Hon. JAMES T. McCLEARY, M. C.,  
*Chairman Committee on the Library.*

SIR: By your letter of April 20, 1904, the Department was informed that the bill (S. 4594) incorporating an American National Institute at Paris, had been referred by the House of Representatives to your committee. In response to your request for the Department's observations on the subject, my reply of the 21st of April showed the favorable attitude of this Department toward the measure. I beg to inclose copy of this correspondence for your convenient information.

I am now in receipt of a letter, dated the 16th instant, from the incorporators of the proposed institute, informing me that the municipal council of the city of Paris, on the 2d of December instant, took action granting a choice and ample site for the institute on the Champ-de-Mars, opposite the Trocadero, and providing that, in order to be available, the official acceptance by the institute must be made within one year. Copy of this communication is inclosed for the consideration of your committee.

I particularly invite the attention of the committee to the condition that this generous grant shall be officially accepted within one year. Until the organizers of the institute are duly incorporated as a legal body they are not officially competent to accept the site.

I respectfully urge that early consideration be given to the act of incorporation now pending before your committee.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, December 31, 1904.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
The Iowa, Washington, D. C.

MADAM: I inclose for your information copy of a letter from the chairman of the Committee on the Library of the House of Representatives, stating that he will lay before the committee the letter of the incorporators of the American National Institute at Paris, in regard to the offer of the municipal council of that city to donate a site for the institute.

Mr. McCleary's attention was called to the length of time within which the offer might be accepted.

I am, madam, your obedient servant,

F. B. LOOMIS,  
Assistant Secretary.

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COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, D. C., December 23, 1904.

The Hon. JOHN HAY,  
Secretary of State.

SIR: Your letter of yesterday, addressed to me as chairman of the Committee on the Library, relative to the bill for incorporating an American National Institute at Paris, France, is received. I note your reference to the information received by you from the incorporators of the proposed institute that the municipal council of the city of Paris took action on the 2d instant granting a "choice and ample site for the institute on the Champ-de-Mars," conditioned upon its acceptance by the institute "within one year" of the date of the grant. A copy of the letter of the incorporators to you, relative to the matter, I find inclosed, as stated.

In reply I would say that as soon as possible I shall bring your letter and the accompanying documents to the attention of the Committee on the Library.

Respectfully, yours,

J. T. MCCLEARY.

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28 EAST FORTY-FIRST STREET, NEW YORK,  
December 16, 1904.

Hon. JOHN HAY,  
Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: Appreciating highly and feeling deeply grateful to you for your interest hitherto shown in the National American Institute in Paris, France, we, the undersigned incorporators nominated in the bill for its establishment, beg leave to invoke your further good offices in its interest.

The municipal council of the city of Paris, on the 2d instant, took action granting a choice and ample site to the institute, on the Champ-de-Mars directly opposite the Trocadero. In order to be available to the institute, the official acceptance by the institute must be made within one year from the date of the grant. In view of the fact that certain sites in Paris have been held available for four years last past for this purpose, the period now fixed by the council for acceptance does not seem unreasonably short. It is so brief, however, that it is essential that the incorporation of the institute, by the two Houses of Congress be completed with all possible promptness.

We therefore most earnestly request you, if it be consistent with your views, that you will put us under increased obligations, by taking any action which will tend to

expedite the incorporation of the institute, and so facilitate the erection of a building on the site, as suggested in your letter to the United States Senate in March last. In this connection we beg leave to inclose herewith printed extracts from the Paris edition of the New York Herald for December 4, 1904, and the Figaro of December 3, 1904. Permit us to subscribe ourselves, with great respect and gratitude,

Your obedient servants,

JOHN M. CARRERE.  
THOMAS HASTINGS.  
JOHN D. CRIMMINS.  
THOMAS HUNTER.  
CAROLINE DE FOREST.  
MARY CALLENDER.  
SARAH BUCKBEE.  
FREDERICK G. SMEDLEY.  
MATILDA SMEDLEY.

# LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE.

STATE DEPARTMENT, April 21, 1904.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
2 Iowa Circle, Washington, D. C.

MADAM: For your information, and referring to previous correspondence, I take pleasure in inclosing copies of a letter from the chairman of the Committee on the Library of the House of Representatives, and of this Department's reply in regard to the passage of the pending bill for incorporation of the American National Institute at Paris.

I am, madam, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, December 22, 1904.

JOHN M. CARRERE, Esq., and others.  
*Incorporators of the National American Institute in Paris,  
28 East Forty-first Street, New York City.*

GENTLEMEN AND LADIES: I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, informing me of the action of the municipal council of the city of Paris in granting, on the 2d instant, a site to the National American Institute on the Champ de Mars, opposite the Trocadero, and with the provision that it be officially accepted within one year.

As the pending legislation for the incorporation of the institute is before the Committee on the Library of the House, I have taken pleasure in sending that Committee a copy of your letter, and other correspondence, urging that early consideration be given to the bill of incorporation. I have also communicated copies of the correspondence to Hon. W. P. Frye for his information.

I am, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

CARRERE & HASTINGS, ARCHITECTS,  
28 EAST FORTY-FIRST STREET,  
New York, December 23, 1904.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am sending you herewith a copy of a letter just received from Secretary Hay, which will interest you.

With best wishes and the compliments of the season, I beg to remain

Yours, very truly,

JOHN M. CARRERE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, March 31, 1904.

THE HON. WILLIAM P. FRYE,  
*President pro tem., United States Senate,*

DEAR MR. SENATOR: I am very glad to learn by your letter of the 29th that the success of the measure for incorporating the American National Institute at Paris seems to be assured.

The subject has interested me very much. It seems to me not a mere experiment, but to rest already on practical foundations and with good prospect of further development, so as to be of great aid to the American art student, as well as most creditable to our national reputation for enterprise in useful and effective directions.

The signal generosity of the municipality of Paris in offering a valuable site for this institute building deserves national recognition on our part in some substantial shape. The erection of a tasteful building, without loss of time, would be the most effective way of meeting the just expectations of the municipality. As soon as the resolution of incorporation becomes law, I shall send certified copy thereof to our ambassador at Paris and direct him to communicate it to the French Government and to lend his aid toward the final arrangements for taking over the site given by the city of Paris.

I am, my dear Mr. Frye, very faithfully yours,

JOHN HAY.

COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, UNITED STATES,  
Washington, D. C., April 20, 1904.

HON. JOHN HAY,  
*Secretary of State, Washington.*

SIR: I inclose herewith a copy of S. 4594, to incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France.

This bill passed the Senate on the 18th instant and has been sent to the House of Representatives and referred to the Committee on the Library for consideration.

I note by the accompanying reports that the State Department has taken an active interest in the subject covered by this bill, and I should like to be advised if, in your judgment, there seems to be any special reason why this bill should pass the House of Representatives at this session. I should be pleased to receive any observations or suggestions which you may deem proper to present.

Very respectfully yours,

J. T. McCLEARY,  
*Chairman of the Committee on the Library.*

STATE DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, D. C., April 21, 1904.

HON. JAMES T. McCLEARY,  
*Chairman Committee on the Library, House of Representatives.*

SIR: I am pleased to learn by your letter of yesterday that the bill incorporating the American National Institute at Paris has passed the Senate and been referred by the House of Representatives to your committee for consideration. I note your suggestion that you would be glad to receive any observation from this Department on the bill, and your inquiry whether, in my judgment, there is any special reason why it should pass the House of Representatives this session.

This Department has indorsed the movement for the incorporation of the American National Institute at Paris and has favorably commended the project to the attention of Congress. In a letter to the President pro tempore of the Senate dated February 28, 1903—

"This Department has for a number of years taken much interest in the success of this movement, designed to establish in Paris a national institute for the study of the arts and sciences, which will at the same time afford a home for young American men and women students, surrounding them with the wholesome influence and moral protection so desirable in a great capital \* \* \*"

"Once set on a practical footing, with appropriate recognition of its character by the Governments of the United States and France, the rapid development and enlargement of its sphere of utility and protection may be expected with confidence."

And in a later communication dated January 23, 1904, to Senator Frye, the Department said:

"It is sincerely hoped that Congress during its present session will recognize this meritorious project by the passage of a bill of the character of the inclosed."

Four years have elapsed since the generous offer by the municipality of Paris of a valuable site for the institute building in the heart of the city.

Favorable action on the pending measure without further delay would seem but a just recognition by this Government of the exceptionally gracious and distinguished act of the French municipality.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

UNITED STATES SENATE,  
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,  
*Washington, April 7, 1902.*

DEAR SENATOR CULLOM: I had an interview yesterday with Miss Smedley, who is very much interested, as you know, in an American national institute at Paris. She desires that an appropriation shall be made for the erection of a building there. Looking over the matter carefully, I find that there is no law whereby the Government is authorized to accept the real estate offered by the French Government or the city of Paris, on which such building is to be erected. Therefore there must be legislation on the subject before the Committee on Appropriations can take any action which shall be effective. I noticed that in the Fifty-sixth Congress, first session, the whole matter was considered by the Committee on Foreign Relations, or at least was referred to it, as shown by Executive Document No. 398. It seems to me that the plan is a valuable and meritorious one, but legislation is required, and your committee, or the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the House, will have to take the initiative. When the necessary legislation shall have passed I shall be glad to cooperate with the friends of the measure in securing a proper appropriation for the construction of a building.

Very truly, yours,

W. B. ALLISON.

Hon. SHELBY M. CULLOM,  
*Chairman Committee on Foreign Relations,  
United States Senate.*

DECEMBER 11, 1897.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Van Dyck Studios, 939 Eighth Avenue, New York City.*

DEAR MADAM: I am in receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, inclosing circulars, etc.; also petition which I have caused to be introduced in the House and referred to the proper committee. The matter shall receive attention.

You say "I am not unmindful of your promise to give your interest and influence to help secure for the American National Institute a part of the appropriation given by the Government to the Paris Exposition." I do not want you to be left under an erroneous impression. While the matter will receive, so far as I am concerned, consideration, I am in no wise committed in the premises.

With respects, etc.,

J. G. CANNON.

[The New York Herald, Paris, Sunday, December 4, 1904.]

MISS SMEDLEY LEAVES PARIS.

Miss M. Smedley will sail to-day on the *Moltke* for America and will proceed to Washington, where she intends to call the attention of the Government to the offer of a site for an American National Institute made by the conseil municipal of Paris.

Her brother-in-law, Herr von Daur, has received the following letter from M. Roger Lambelin, who presented her petition to the conseil municipal:

CHER MONSIEUR: J'ai regretté d'avoir manqué ce matin la visite de Miss Smedley et la vôtre, et j'ai maintenant le plaisir de vous informer que mon rapport a été adopté tout à l'heure par le conseil sans opposition.

L'administration préfectorale est donc invitée à entrer en pourparlers avec vous sur les bases indiquées dans le projet de délibération qui forme la conclusion du rapport.

Veuillez offrir mes respectueux hommages à Miss Smedley, qui pourra emporter aux Etats-Unis ce témoignage de sympathie de la ville de Paris, et agréer, cher monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

ROGER LAMBELIN.

[The New York Herald, Paris, Sunday, January 22, 1906.]

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

M. Henri von Daur, who has been in Paris for some weeks engaged in negotiations respecting the American National Institute, sailed yesterday for New York on the



*Champagne.* He is the bearer of important documents, and before his departure he received a letter from the State Department, Washington, which reads as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, January 6, 1905.

M. HENRI VON DAUR,

*Secretary-General, American National Institute, 24 avenue de Saxe, Paris.*

DEAR MR. VON DAUR: I am in receipt of your very kind and extremely informing letter of December 25, which I have read with much interest. I congratulate you very heartily upon the successes which you have already won, and I feel assured that the main difficulties are now obviated.

Very sincerely, yours,

J. B. LOOMIS.

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[The Washington Post, Saturday, February 18, 1905.]

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE—PLOT OF GROUND GIVEN IN PARIS FOR THE BUILDINGS.

Mr. Henri von Daur, delegate and secretary-general of the American National Institute, arrived from Paris two weeks ago, with credentials and the plan of a plot of ground valued at \$100,000 (said document forwarded to him by Mr. Menant, director of municipal affairs, by authority of the prefect of the Seine, M. de Selves), whereupon to build the so much desired and needed institute.

Mr. von Daur was received yesterday by President Roosevelt, and has had interviews with the Secretary of State, Hon. John Hay; with the French ambassador, M. Jusserand; Senators Frye, Allison, Kean, Cullom; Representatives Hitt, Payne, McCleary, and other statesmen. Mr. von Daur, who is the brother-in-law of Miss Smedley, the founder of the American National Institute, is confident that the bill which is now before the House of Representatives will be passed without fail this session.

As this great project has already won the sympathy of a multitude of prominent citizens of the United States, the incorporators trust that steps will be taken to receive and take over the gift of ground that the municipal council of Paris, France, has so generously voted, as shown by the document of concession, dated December 2, 1904 (legalized by the ministry of foreign affairs in Paris and by the United States embassy), on the splendid report on the merits of the work by Mr. Roger Lambelin, member of the municipal council, under the presidency of Mr. Desplas; further, the \$25,000 in scholarships, and other sums for the scholarship fund, as well as valuable gifts in paintings, statuary, and books of the greatest living artists and literati of France, pianos, organs, etc.

The incorporators hope that a commission will be appointed by the Congress and the State Department to receive such gifts and give recognition in answer to such sympathy and generosity as has never before been extended to any foreign nation by France.

Mr. von Daur has also with him testimonial letters from the great masters of France, minister of public instruction, and the director of beaux arts, Mr. Marcel, in which they all promise their support and cooperation toward the final organization of this institute for the American prize students.

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[The Evening Star, Washington, D. C., Monday, February 20, 1905.]

ACTION PROBABLE—BILL TO INCORPORATE AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN PARIS—GROUND DONATED BY CITY GOVERNMENT—PROJECT INDORSED BY MANY PROMINENT CITIZENS.

Action will probably be had at the present session of Congress on the bill pending before the House Committee on the Library to incorporate the American National Institute in Paris, France. The measure, which was introduced last April, has as its object the erection of a building in Paris and to provide favorable conditions of surroundings and direction for American students and to facilitate their studies and training in the arts and sciences, including architecture, sculpture, painting, applied design, music, dramatic art, literature, languages, scientific instruction and research.

The list of incorporators contains the names of many distinguished persons, among them Chauncey M. Depew, Thomas Hunter, Count von Daur, John D. Crimmins, Thomas Hastings, J. Clarence Goodrich, Charles P. Gardiner, Candace Wheeler, Mary R. Callender, Caroline de Forest, John M. Cerrere, Frederick Smedley, Sarah

E. Henderson, Sarah E. Buckbee, and Matilda Smedley, of New York City; Joshua L. Chamberlain, of Maine, and Henry Vignaud, of Paris, France.

The bill empowers the company to take over the property of the American National Institute, which has been already incorporated in New York. This property includes a plot of ground in Paris dedicated by the government of the city to the institute.

The measure further provides that the institute may send annually a report to the Secretary of State, for transmittal to Congress, and may also send each year to the Congressional Library, subject to the approval of the Joint Committee on the Library of the two Houses, such works of the students of the institute considered suitable for preservation and exhibition.

All gifts and bequests of money to the institute, it is provided, unless otherwise directed by the donor, shall be invested in United States bonds, and any scholarship donated or bequeathed shall be applied to that branch of education specified by the donor.

#### URGED BY STATE DEPARTMENT.

The passage of the bill has been strongly urged by Secretary of State Hay, who, in a letter on the subject, reviewed the plans and purposes of the institute and said that the State Department has for a number of years taken much interest in the success of the movement, designed to establish in Paris a national institute for the study of art which will at the same time afford a home for young American men and women students, surrounding them with the wholesome influences and moral protection so desirable in a great capital.

In a more recent letter to Congress Assistant Secretary of State Adeë said:

"While occupying temporary quarters during the past three years, the institute has shown its capacity for good, both in its educational and in its moral sense. It has enlisted sympathy in France as well as in the United States, and now holds important donations of money and valuable works of art toward its establishment and maintenance. A good working nucleus for the necessary collections of paintings, statuary, and books already exists. Once set on a practical footing, with appropriate recognition of its character by the Governments of the United States and of France, the rapid development and enlargement of its sphere of utility and protection may be expected with confidence."

Mr. Adeë's letter closed with the statement that "it is sincerely hoped that Congress, during the present session, will recognize this meritorious project by the passage of the bill."

#### GROUND VALUED AT \$100,000.

The arrival in Washington from Paris two weeks ago of Mr. Henri von Daur, delegate and secretary-general of the American National Institute, with a plan of the plot of ground, valued at \$100,000, dedicated by the city of Paris on which to build the institute, has revived interest in the bill.

Mr. von Daur was received the other day by President Roosevelt, and has had interviews with Secretary of State Hay, the French ambassador, M. Jusserand; Senators Frye, Allison, Kean, and Cullom; Representatives Hitt, Payne, McCleary, and other members of both Houses. Mr. von Daur, who is the brother-in-law of Miss Smedley, the founder of the American National Institute, is confident that the bill which is now before the House of Representatives will be passed without fail this session.

As the project has enlisted the sympathies of many prominent citizens of the United States, the incorporators have reason to hope that steps will be taken at once to take over the gift of ground by the city of Paris.

The incorporators want a commission appointed by Congress to receive gifts, such as the \$25,000 in scholarships.

Mr. von Daur has with him testimonial letters from the great masters of France, minister of public instruction and the director of beaux-arts, Mr. Marcel, in which they all promise their support and cooperation toward the final organization of this institute for the American prize students.

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

IN RELATION TO

THE PROPOSED INCORPORATION OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL  
INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS) AT PARIS.

MARCH 15, 1905.—Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to  
be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, March 11, 1905.*

SIR: On January 22, 1904, a letter was addressed to the President pro tempore of the Senate by the Acting Secretary of State (copy attached), in regard to the proposed incorporation of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris.

At that time a bill for this purpose, which had been introduced as S. 7368 in the Fifty-seventh Congress, second session, and which had been passed by the Senate on February 28, 1903, had failed to obtain consideration in the House of Representatives. The Department had previously expressed its interest in the measure in the terms quoted in the letter of January 22, 1904, and on this latter date took occasion to express the hope that the meritorious project might be recognized by the passage of a similar measure during the Fifty-eighth Congress.

The same thing took place in the Fifty-eighth Congress. A bill similar to the former one was introduced and was passed by the Senate April 18, 1904. (S. 4594, 58th Cong., 1st sess.) It likewise failed to receive consideration in the House of Representatives, and died with the close of the Fifty-eighth Congress on March 4, 1905.

In the meantime the efforts of the incorporators of the American National Institute in Paris had obtained from the municipality of the city of Paris a definite gratuitous option of a desirable site facing the Champs de Mars upon which to establish the institute. That option by its terms expires December 2, 1905, and is otherwise accompanied by conditions not contemplated in the bill which had passed the Senate eight months before.

It is represented to me that the incorporators of the institute propose to make further efforts with the municipality of Paris to obtain extension and necessary amendment of the option, and that the probability of their succeeding in this would be increased if the measure for the incorporation of the institute were actually before the present Fifty-ninth Congress.

In view of the interest heretofore shown in the project by this Department, and taking into account the generous action of the municipality of Paris in offering to contribute a valuable site toward its realization, it seems not inappropriate to apprise you of the purpose and desire of the incorporators to keep the project alive and to express a hope that some way may be found by which this can be done.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

HON. CHARLES W. FAIRBANKS,  
*President United States Senate.*

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, January 22, 1904.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a copy of a letter from Miss Mathilda Smedley, with inclosures, looking to the incorporation of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France.

A bill for this purpose (S. 7368) was passed by the Senate on February 28, 1903, and I am informed was reported favorably to the House of Representatives, where it failed of consideration.

In regard to this bill the Secretary of State, in a letter addressed to you, wrote:

This Department has for a number of years taken much interest in the success of this movement, designed to establish in Paris a national institute for the study of art, which will at the same time afford a home for young American men and women students, surrounding them with the wholesome influences and moral protection so desirable in a great capital.

By referring to Senate Document No. 398, Fifty-sixth Congress, first session, you will find the purposes of the institute fully explained and a gratifying showing of the progress made toward its accomplishment. It has received the cordial support of the municipal administration of Paris, which has generously offered a large and valuable site, on renewable lease, at a nominal ground rent of 1 franc per annum, for the construction of the buildings of the institute. That document (No. 398) gives plots of the fourteen sites from which to make selection.

While occupying temporary quarters during the past three years the institute has shown its capacity for good both in its educational and in its moral sense. It has enlisted sympathy in France as well as in the United States, and now holds important donations of money and valuable works of art toward its establishment and maintenance. A good working nucleus for the necessary collections of paintings, statuary, and books already exists. Once set on a practical footing, with appropriate recognition of its character by the Governments of the United States and of France the rapid development and enlargement of its sphere of utility and protection may be expected with confidence.

It is sincerely hoped that Congress during its present session will recognize this meritorious project by the passage of a bill of the character inclosed.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADEE,  
*Acting Secretary.*

Hon. WILLIAM P. FRYE,

*President pro tempore United States Senate.*

(Inclosures:) From Miss M. Smedley, December 18, 1903; January 21, 1904; Senate Document No. 160, Fifty-seventh Congress, second session; S. 7368, Fifty-seventh Congress, second session.

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[From the Congressional Record, Wednesday, March 15, 1905.]

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

Mr. FRYE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for leave to introduce a bill and have it read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. It is a bill touching the American National Institute at Paris. It passed the Senate and was reported favorably in the House, but was not considered in that body. The city of Paris has made a gift of a fine site, costing \$100,000, and I simply desire that the bill may be introduced and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, so they may know there that the matter is still alive.

Mr. TELLER. I do not desire to object, but I wish to ask the Senator from Maine why he requests unanimous consent to introduce a matter of this kind?

Mr. FRYE. Because it has not been called in regular order.

Mr. TELLER. Oh!

The VICE-PRESIDENT. Without objection, the bill will be introduced.

Mr. FRYE. In connection with it I present certain papers, to be referred with the bill to the Committee on Foreign Relations and printed.

The bill (S. 1) to incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France, was read twice by its title, and, with the accompanying papers, which were ordered to be printed, referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. In this connection the Chair lays before the Senate a letter from the Secretary of State, transmitting certain information relative to the incorporation of the American National Institute at Paris, France.

Mr. FRYE. It should be printed and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The letter will be printed and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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[From the Evening Star, Wednesday, March 15, 1905.]

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE AT PARIS.

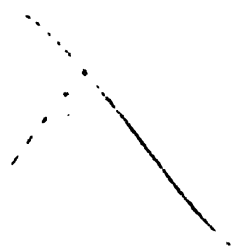
Senator Frye introduced a bill to-day to incorporate the American Institute at Paris. The bill, with a communication from the Secretary of State, was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. Mr. Frye stated that the object of introducing the bill was to notify the persons interested that the subject had not been allowed to die, but was before the Senate.

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[From the Washington Post, Friday, March 17, 1905.]

AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN PARIS—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT THANKED FOR HIS INTEREST IN THE PROJECT.

President Roosevelt yesterday received the French ambassador, Mr. Jusserand, and Senator Chauncey M. Depew, who introduced Miss Matilda Smedley, the



THE MORRIS PLAINS CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

er general, and Mr. Henri von Daur, secretary-general of the American National Institute at Paris, France. Senator Depew said it was very gratifying to know that the Government of France and the city of Paris had given such generous patronage to the meritorious work for the American students—notably the municipality of the city of Paris—having voted a plat of ground upon which to erect the buildings to be known as the American National Institute.

The French ambassador expressed his pleasure and satisfaction to the President of the United States for such interest and support in encouraging such a work, which he received marked sympathy from France. Miss Smedley and Mr. von Daur thanked the President for his patronage, to which the President replied he would be glad to see this project, which had all his sympathies, soon become a fact.

Mr. von Daur, the secretary-general, leaves for New York, where he will spend a few weeks before sailing for Europe.

# **DOCUMENTS SETTING FORTH THE GIFT OF GROUND BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF PARIS, FRANCE, ON WHICH TO ERECT THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE.**

CONSEIL MUNICIPAL DE PARIS,  
24 AVENUE DE SAXE, PARIS, LE VENDREDI 6 SOIR,  
Décembre 2 1904.

MR MONSIEUR: J'ai regretté d'avoir manqué ce matin la visite de Miss Smedley à votre, et j'ai maintenant le plaisir de vous informer que mon rapport a été adopté tant tout à l'heure par le conseil sans opposition.

L'administration préfectorale est donc invitée à entrer en pourparler avec vous sur les bases indiquées dans le projet de délibération qui forme la conclusion du rapport.

Je vous prie d'offrir mes respectueux hommages à Miss Smedley qui pourra emporter aux Etats-Unis ce témoignage de sympathie de la ville de Paris et agréer, cher monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

ROGER LAMBELIN,  
*President of the Fourth Commission.*

Monsieur HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secrétaire Général de l'Institut national américain.*

[Translation.]

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF PARIS,  
24 AVENUE DE SAXE,  
Paris, December 2, 1904.

MR SIR: I regret having missed yours and Miss Smedley's visit this morning. I have now the pleasure of informing you that my report has just been adopted without opposition by the council.

The administration of the prefecture is in consequence invited to confer with you on the basis indicated in the plan of the resolution which forms the conclusion of the report.

I cordially offer my respectful homage to Miss Smedley, who will be able to carry her to the United States this mark of sympathy from the city of Paris. I am glad to accept, dear sir, the assurance of my most distinguished sentiments.

ROGER LAMBELIN,  
*President of the Fourth Commission.*

M. HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General of the American National Institute.*



[Republic of France. Liberty. Equality. Fraternity.]

**PREFECTURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE SEINE.**

(Extract from the record of the verbal proceedings of the sessions of the municipal council of the city of Paris.)

Session of the 2d of December, 1904.

Concession of a plat of land in the city of Paris for the National American Institute.

**THE COUNCIL,**

"In view of the renewed petition of the founders of the National American Institute;" in view of the printed report by Mr. Roger Lambelin, in the name of the fourth commission, resolves:

ARTICLE 1. The administration is invited to enter into negotiations with the founders of the American National Institute for the purpose of conceding to them, under a renewable lease for a long term of years, at an annual rental of 1 franc, a plat of ground in the city of Paris, situated preferably within the zone to be set off at the border of the Champs du Mars, for the construction of the building for the said institute.

ART. 2. The plans for the proposed structure are to be subject to the approval of the architectural authorities of the city.

ART. 3. The compact to be entered into, and which will be submitted to the council, will expressly stipulate that in case the Government of the United States does not, within the space of one year, make a donation to the National American Institute of the sum of \$250,000, then the concession granted by the city shall be null and void.

Certified copy.

The secretary-general of the prefecture.

AUTRAN.

The above resolution can not become operative until it shall be approved by competent authority.

The secretary-general.

AUTRAN.

Accountant for foreign affairs, 20th December, 1904. Received 1 franc. Receipt No. 31.

The minister of foreign affairs certifies as to the genuineness of the signature of Mr. Autran.

[SEAL.]

AUTRAN.

Mr. HENRI VON DAUR,

*Secretary-General of the American National Institute.*

PARIS, December 20, 1904.

For the minister.

For the chief of bureau, deputy.

[SEAL.]

A. DE SAINT CLAIRE.

UNITED STATES EMBASSY,

Paris, December 21, 1904.

The seal of the ministry of foreign affairs and the signature of Mr. A. de Saint Claire are certified to be genuine.

[U. S. SEAL.]

[FRENCH SEAL.]

HENRI VIGNAUD,

*Secretary to the United States Embassy.*

[From the Official Municipal Bulletin of Saturday, December 3, 1905.—Translation.]

CITY OF PARIS, FRANCE.

Concession of a plat of ground in the city of Paris to the American National Institute.

MR. PRESIDENT: The order of the day calls for the discussion of the report presented by Mr. Roger Lambelin, in the name of the fourth commission, to the effect

that there be accorded to the American National Institute the concession, under a long lease, of a plat of ground in the city of Paris.

This report has been printed and distributed (No. 76 of 1904).

Mr. Roger Lambelin, reporter.

**GENTLEMEN:** By a petition dated on the 4th of July, 1903, Mr. Henri von Daur, secretary-general of the American National Institute renewed his petition to the city of Paris for a gratuitous concession of a tract of communal land upon which to erect an edifice. In this building there would be established, under the patronage of the United States Government, a school of arts and sciences distributing annual prizes (the Prix de Paris) by a system analogous to our French school in Rome.

On two different occasions the municipal council has been called upon to consider this request.

By a resolution dated December 23, 1899, upon the report of Mr. Clairin, in the name of the fourth commission, the principle of a grant of land was admitted, and the administration was invited to enter into negotiations with the founders of the American National Institute for the purpose of conceding to them upon a long and renewable lease, at an annual rental of 1 franc, a site in the city of Paris for the construction of a building for the above-named institute.

The administration held a conference with the founders of the institute, who on their side solicited from the United States Government a donation of \$250,000 to cover the expenses of constructing a suitable building.

But the municipal council, taking into consideration a proposition by Mr. Fortin and adopting the conclusions of Mr. Bussat, decided, on the 12th of July, 1900, that the resolution of the 28th of December, 1899, should be recalled.

Being called upon a third time to pronounce upon this question, the fourth commission has made a profound study of the subject, taking as a basis the former reports of Messrs. Clairin and Bussat.

New light has been thrown upon the question and new information has been furnished, enabling the commission to-day to propose to you a definite solution.

Incorporated on the 9th of December, 1895, under the laws of the State of New York, the American National Institute was founded by an American lady of high intellectual culture, Miss Matilda Smedley.

The principal object of this foundation is to procure for the young men and women of the United States who are devoting themselves to studies in the various arts and sciences the means for completing their studies in Paris under the instruction of the best French masters.

From the time of its origin this initiative by Miss Smedley has met with warm sympathy on both sides the Atlantic.

There was constituted in New York a committee of patronage (honorary committee) designed to form an examining jury for the students.

This committee comprises in its membership the presidents of the National Academy of Design, and the American Association of Water Colorists, and the Metropolitan School of Fine Arts, and the National Society of Sculpture, and the New York Society of Architects, etc.

In France many eminent artists have promised to interest themselves personally in this work and to give courses of instruction and lectures upon all subjects touching upon sciences and arts and literature.

But financial cooperation is necessary to the completion of such an enterprise.

Miss Smedley and her colleague, Mr. von Daur, have already found assistance.

By a legal instrument dated December 15, 1898, Mrs. Walden Pell made a gift toward the foundation of the institute of \$10,000 (50,000 francs) for a scholarship designed specially for music.

Another gift of a like sum was made to Miss Smedley by Mrs. James Jackson for a scholarship, who also promised to contribute to the foundation of the library.

It is highly probable that when the projects undertaken by Miss Smedley and Mr. von Daur are on the way to realization there will be no lack of subscriptions for scholarships from individuals and from the various States of the Union.

The arguments developed by the report of the fourth commission in 1900 for the rejection of the petition by the municipal council may be united under two heads, as follows:

First. The American National Institute is a private enterprise offering no guaranties.

Second. The city of Paris in granting a site for this institute would be laying a heavy burden upon its finances, and the sacrifice to which the city would have to consent may be estimated at 500,000 francs (\$100,000).

It is easy to reply to these objections.

First, the greater part of the public institutions in the United States—universities, hospitals, libraries, etc.—are due to private initiative, and the State or the States manifest their sympathy and esteem for these institutions by according them scholarships and subsidies.

If the American National Institute had a purely commercial character, the Senate of the United States would surely not have incorporated and adopted, upon a second reading, the bill relative to its foundation, which bill necessitates permanent financial control.

As to the moral guaranties offered by the initiators of this superior school of arts and sciences they are attested by letters and communications from Hon. John Hay, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; from Hon. William P. Frye, President pro tempore of the Senate; from Mr. Jules Cambon, ambassador from France to Washington, and from Mr. Henri Vignaud, first secretary of the United States embassy at Paris.

It is proper to note that these documents and references were established in 1901-3, and consequently did not figure in the brief of the petition when it was reported to the council by our colleague Mr. Bussat.

Then, as to the fact of conceding under certain conditions a tract of land belonging to the city of Paris, this does not necessarily imply a heavy burden upon our finances.

If, after an understanding with the Government, an agreement be entered into through common interests, and we should authorize the American National Institute to erect its building on the border of the Champs de Mars, our sacrifice would not only be merely nominal, but we should by this same act increase the value of the land from which the conceded portion had been set apart.

It is a matter understood that those to whom the concession should be made would be obliged to submit the plans for the projected structure to the supervision of our architectural authorities.

There was a final argument presented in 1900, in order to avert the petition.

"A very heavy duty has to be paid upon works of art imported into the United States, therefore the means of frequenting the studios and of profiting by lessons from our masters in painting and sculpture should not be rendered easy to Americans."

I decidedly admit the policy of reprisals in fiscal and industrial matters, but it seems to me the city of Paris should enlarge its horizon and elevate its thoughts when it becomes a question of devotion to the superiority of French art, and of spreading abroad its luster.

In concluding these various considerations, which do not require any lengthy development, we have the honor to submit to you the following resolution:

The council, taking into consideration the renewed petition of the founders of the American National Institute, taking into consideration the report of Mr. Roger Lambelin in the name of the fourth commission, resolves:

ARTICLE 1. The administration is invited to enter into negotiations with the founders of the American National Institute for the purpose of conceding to them, under a renewable lease for a long term of years, at an annual rental of 1 franc, a plot of ground in the city of Paris, situated preferably within the zone to be set off on the border of the Champ de Mars, for the construction of the building for the said institute.

ART. 2. The plans of the proposed structure are to be subject to the approval of the architectural authorities of the city.

ART. 3. The contract to be drawn up, which will be submitted to the council, will expressly stipulate that, in case the Government of the United States does not, within the space of one year, make a donation to the National American Institute of the sum of \$250,000, then the concession granted by the city will be null and void.

These conclusions are adopted (1903, p. 1854).

[Copy.]

CONSEIL MUNICIPAL DE PARIS,  
CABINET DU PRÉSIDENT,  
*Paris, le 19 novembre 1904.*

MONSIEUR LE SECRÉTAIRE-GÉNÉRAL: Monsieur le président sera très heureux de vous recevoir ainsi que Mademoiselle Smedley lundi prochain (21 novembre écour.), à 2 heures de l'après midi, à son cabinet, à l'Hotel de Ville.

Veuillez agréer Monsieur le Secrétaire-Général l'assurance de mes sentiments très distingués.

Par le chef du cabinet du président du conseil municipal de Paris.

PIERRE LECE, *Secrétaire particulier.*

MONSIEUR HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secrétaire Général*  
*de l'Institut National Américain,*  
*24 Avenue de Saxe.*

[Translation.]

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF PARIS,  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,  
*Paris, November 19, 1904.*

MR. SECRETARY-GENERAL: The president of the council will be very happy to receive you and Miss Smedley Monday next (November 21), at 2 o'clock p. m., at his office at the Hotel de Ville.

Accept, Mr. Secretary-General, the assurance of my greatest respect.

Per the chief of the office of the president of the municipal council of Paris.

PIERRE LECE, *Private Secretary.*

TO MR. HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General of the*  
*American National Institute,*  
*24 Avenue de Saxe, Paris.*

CABINET DU DIRECTEUR, HÔTEL DE VILLE,  
*Paris, le 5 janvier 1905.*

MONSIEUR: S'il vous est possible de passer à mon cabinet, après demain samedi de 3 à 5 heures, j'aurais à vous entretenir de l'affaire concernant l'Institut National Américain.

Veuillez agréer, je vous prie, l'assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée.

J. BOUVARD.

MONSIEUR HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secrétaire Général de l'Institut National Américain.*

[Translation.]

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR,  
HOTEL DE VILLE (CITY HALL),  
*Paris, January 5, 1905.*

M. HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General of the American National Institute, 24 Avenue de Saxe.*

SIR: If it is convenient for you I would be very pleased to have you call at my office to-morrow (Saturday) from 3 to 5 p. m.

I would like to confer with you in matters concerning the American National Institute.

Please to accept the assurance of my highest respect and consideration.

T. BOUVARD,  
*Director of the Architectural Service of the City of Paris.*

In reference to the foregoing letter of Mr. Bouvard, director of the architectural service of the city of Paris, I called at his office at the Hotel de Ville, January 6, and was graciously received by him, and directed to see Mr. Menant, director of the municipal affairs, in order to secure the map of the grounds granted upon which to erect the edifice of the American National Institute on the Champs de Mars, one of the healthiest locations of Paris (valued at least at 500,000 francs), which had his full approval.

On date January 19, 1905, I received the plan as indicated by the inclosed map of said ground letter A, in blue, by authorization of the prefect of the Seine, M. de Selves, and sent by Mr. A. Menant, director of municipal affairs.

HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General of the American National Institute.*

CARDS OF CONGRATULATION IN RECOGNITION OF THE FAVORABLE REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF PARIS, WHICH SETTLED THE QUESTION OF GROUND UPON WHICH TO CONSTRUCT THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

DECEMBER 2, 1904.

- EMILE COMBES, *sénateur, président du Conseil, ministre de l'intérieur et des cultes.*  
 ABEL COMBARIEU, *secrétaire général civil de la présidence de la République.*  
 Gen. HORACE PORTER, *ambassador of the United States.*  
 J. CHAUMIE, *sénateur, ministre de l'instruction publique et des beaux-arts.*  
 LE CARDINAL RICHARD, *archevêque de Paris.*  
 LOUIS HERBETTE, *conseiller d'État. Souvenirs et souhaits bien sincères.*  
 J. BOUVARD, *director des services d'architecture, des promenades et plantations, de la voirie et du plan de Paris.*  
 JULES CLARETIE, *de l'Académie Française, administrateur général de la Comédie Française.*  
 J. DE SELVES, *préfet de la Seine.*  
 E. BAUMGART, *administrateur de la Manufacture nationale de Sèvres.*  
 GEORGE DESPLAS, *avocat à la Cour d'appel, président du Conseil municipal de Paris.*  
 J. POIRY, *vice président du Conseil municipal de Paris, conseiller général de la Seine.*  
 P. LAMPUE, *vice président du Conseil général de la Seine, conseiller municipal de Paris.*  
 AUGUSTE AUTRAND, *secrétaire général de la Seine.*  
 CHARLES RISLER, *maire du VII<sup>e</sup> arrondissement, membre des Conseils de surveillance, de l'Assistance publique et du Mont-du-Picé de Paris.*  
 PAUL ESCUDIER, *avocat à la Cour d'appel, ancien président du Conseil municipal de Paris, conseiller général de la Seine.*  
 LE COMTE DE SUAREZ D'AULAN, *ancien député, conseiller municipal de Paris, membre du Conseil général de la Seine.*  
 LOUIS DUVAL-ARNOULD, *avocat à la Cour d'appel, docteur en droit, conseiller municipal.*  
 MAURICE QUENTIN BAUCHERT, *conseiller municipal de la ville de Paris, membre du Conseil général de la Seine.*  
 PAUL CHAUTARD, *conseiller municipal de Paris, conseiller général de la Seine.*  
 ALPHONSE DEVILLE, *avocat à la Cour d'appel, membre du Conseil municipal de Paris.*  
 CÉSAR CAIRE, *docteur en droit, avocat à la Cour d'appel, conseiller municipal de Paris, conseiller général de la Seine.*  
 ADRIEN MITHOUD, *conseiller municipal de Paris.*  
 LOUIS DAUSSET.  
 CAROLUS DURAN, *de l'Institut, directeur de l'Académie de France à Rome.*  
 FERNAND CORMON, *de l'Institut.*  
 HENRI POINCARÉ, *membre de l'Institut et du Bureau des longitudes, professeur à la Faculté des Sciences.*  
 CONSTANT MOYAUX, *membre de l'Institut, inspecteur général des bâtiments civils, professeur à l'École nationale des beaux-arts.*  
 Mr. et Mme. ERNEST DUBOIS.  
 JULES LE FEBVRE, *membre de l'Institut.*  
 DENYS PUECH.  
 LUDOVIC HALÉVY, *de l'Académie Française.*  
 WILLIAM BOUGUEREAU, *membre de l'Institut.*  
 Mr. et Mme. WILLIAM BOUGUEREAU. *Avec nos remerciements et nos meilleurs vœux.*  
 ÉMILE VAUDREMER, *membre de l'Institut.*  
 JULES LEMAITRE, *de l'Académie Française.*  
 HIPPOLYTE LE FEBVRE, *statuaire.*  
 GABRIEL LIPPMAUN, *membre de l'Institut et du Bureau des longitudes, professeur à la Faculté des sciences.*  
 E. NAVELLIER.  
 PAUL BOESWILLWALD, *architecte, inspecteur général des monuments historiques, professeur à l'École des beaux-arts.*  
 LE DR. PAUL SEGOND, *professeur agrégé à la Faculté, chirurgien de la salpêtrière, médecin principal de la compagnie du chemin de fer d'Orléans.*  
 CHARLES RICHET, *professeur à la Faculté de médecine de Paris.*  
 ALBERT BLONDEL (ERARD), *facteur de pianos et de harpes.*  
 ANTONY RATIER, *avocat près le tribunal de la Seine, sénateur.*  
 LÉON MELCHISSEDEC.

SECRETAIRE-GÉNÉRAL, DE L'INSTITUT-NATIONAL-AMÉRICAIN,  
24 Avenue de Saïre, Paris, le 15 Novembre, 1900.

TRANSLATED COPY OF THE ORIGINAL DECLARATION OF THE COMMITTEE OF PATRONAGE  
AND JURY OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE PRIX DE PARIS IN PARIS.

We, the undersigned, having a perfect knowledge of the aim and importance of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) founded by Miss Matilda Smedley, have consented to become members of the jury for the annual examinations for the Prix de Paris, in behalf of students of the United States of America already residing in Paris for study.

*Painting.*—WILLIAM BOUGUEREAU, JULES LEFEBVRE, JEAN PAUL LAURENS, LEON BONNAT, F. CORMON.

*Sculpture.*—BARTHOLDI, HIPPOLYTE LEFEBVRE, DENYS PUECH, ERNEST DUBOIS, E. BARRIAS.

*Architecture.*—F. VAUDREMER, C. MOYAUX, BOUVARD, PAUL BOESWILLWALD, T. L. PASCAL, LOUIS BERNIER.

*Music.*—MASSENET, J. PIERNÉ, THEODOR DUBOIS, A. GIRAUDET, T. MELCHISEDEC.

*Dramatic art.*—JULES CLARETIE, JULES LEMAITRE, LUDOVIC HALÉVY, G. OHNET.

*Literature.*—SULLY-PRUDHOMME, T. M. DE HEREDIE, MAURICE ALBERT, GRÉARD.

*Science.*—EMILE PICARD, DR. PAUL SEGOND, H. POINCARÉ, G. LIPPMANN, DR. CHARLES RICHTER.

[Translation.]

MAYORALTY OF LUXEMBOURG,  
RUE BONAPARTE, 78,  
Paris, December 5, 1904.

MR. H. VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General of the "National American Institute."*

DEAR SIR: The municipal council of Paris has finally found the time to confirm the former deliberation by which it accorded a plot of ground to the National American Institute for the purpose of constructing thereon its edifice for the arts and sciences.

The new deliberation, which is more definite, designates as its object the granting, by preference, a tract by the Champ de Mars; that is to say, in the western part of Paris, which is destined to become a center of elegance and fine buildings.

Your patience and that of Miss Smedley thus receive their recompense. As I have been the witness and confidant of all your efforts I can well testify that this success is due to your indefatigable perseverance. The "Prix de Paris" which has been so happily suggested by Miss Smedley is an arrangement as advantageous to the United States as it is honorable to France. I am certain that your work will meet with, among your compatriots, as well as here, the enthusiastic reception which it deserves.

Be kind enough to present to Miss Smedley, with my congratulations, the assurance of my profound respect, and receive for yourself, my dear sir, the assurance of my sympathy and devotion.

FELIX HERBET,  
*Mayor of the VI Arrondissement,  
Doctor of Laws, Advocate before the Court of Appeals,  
Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, Officer of Public Instruction.*

MAIRIE DU LUXEMBOURG,  
RUE BONAPARTE, 78.  
Paris, le 5 décembre 1904.

MONSIEUR H. VON DAUR,  
*Secrétaire général de l'Institut national américain.*

CHER MONSIEUR: Le conseil municipal de Paris a enfin trouvé le temps de confirmer la délibération antérieure, par laquelle il accordait un terrain à l'Institut national américain pour y construire son palais des beaux-arts. La délibération nouvelle, plus précise, désigne pour cet objet, de préférence, un terrain du Champ de Mars, c'est-à-dire de cette partie ouest de Paris destinée à devenir un centre d'élégance et de beaux édifices.

Votre patience et celle de Miss Smedley reçoivent ainsi leur récompense. Comme j'ai été témoins et confident de toutes vos démarches, je puis bien assurer que ce succès est dû à votre infatigable persévérance. Le "Prix de Paris," tel que l'a si heureusement conçu Miss Smedley, est une institution aussi avantageuse aux Etats-Unis qu'honorable pour la France. Je suis certain que votre œuvre rencontrera parmi vos compatriotes, comme ici, l'accueil enthousiaste qu'elle mérite.

Veuillez, je vous prie, faire agréer à Miss Smedley, avec toutes mes félicitations, l'hommage de mon profond respect, et recevoir pour vous, cher monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments bien sympathiques et dévoués.

FÉLIX HERBET,

*Maire du 1<sup>er</sup> arrondissement, Docteur en droit, avocat à la Cour d'appel,  
Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, officier de l'Instruction publique.*

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[Translation.]

COUNCIL OF STATE,  
Paris, December 4, 1904.

Mr. HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General of the "American National Institute," Paris.*

SIR: It is ages since I had the pleasure of seeing you and meeting with Miss Smedley. But you can well imagine how age and poor health make many requirements, and I am not forgetful and not indifferent. The interchanges of opinions and sentiments upon the increasingly desirable relations between France and America have certainly met with no change. The journey and the mission which I have just had in America have only served to strengthen these opinions and sentiments.

I know that the useful project which you were engaged in is dearer to you than ever.

I beg you to present my respectful homage to Miss Smedley who is devoted to that work.

With expressions of the most cordial regard,  
I am, yours,

L. HERBETTE, *Councilor of State.*

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CONSEIL D'ÉTAT,  
Paris, le 4 décembre 1904.

Monsieur HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secrétaire général de l'Institut national américain, Paris.*

MONSIEUR: Il y a des siècles que je n'ai eu le plaisir de vous voir et de me trouver avec Miss Smedley. Mais vous devinez bien que si je suis dévoré par des besoins multiples, que l'âge et la santé ne facilitent pas toujours; je ne suis ni un oublieux, ni un indifférent. Les opinions et les sentiments que j'échangeais sur les relations croissantes désirables entre Français et Américains n'ont certes pas changés. Le voyage et la mission que je viens de faire en Amérique n'ont pu que les fortifier. Je sais que les projets si utiles dont il fallait suivre la préparation vous sont plus chers que jamais, ainsi qu'à Miss Smedley.

En retombant dans l'agitation de Paris, je tiens à vous prier de présenter mes respectueux hommages, avec tous mes vœux, que je vous demande d'accepter aussi avec l'expression cordiale de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

L. HERBETTE, *Conseiller d'Etat.*

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[From the American Register, Paris, March 12, 1905.]

THE END OF THE GALERIE DES MACHINES—AN AMERICAN PALACE TO BE BUILT.

The Galerie des Machines, where the agricultural show is going to be opened in a few days, is irrevocably condemned. Its disappearance is now only a question of a few months. It has just been decided that no more concessions will be granted by the board of architects after June 25, when they will commence to tear down the building. The last occupant will be the Congress of Millers. Parisians will miss this souvenir of the exposition of 1889, which has seen so many fêtes and expositions,

but its demolition is necessary on account of the project which the city has in view in regard to the Champ de Mars. One of the corners of the Champ de Mars, now occupied by the galerie, will give way to the American Palace, similar to the French school at Rome. The young artists of the United States, sent by their Government, will study the masterpieces of art belonging to France in this American Palace.

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**DOCUMENT RELATING TO THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE  
AT PARIS, FRANCE.**

[Senate Document No. 121, Fifty-eighth Congress, second session.]

JANUARY 25, 1904.

Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, January 23, 1904.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a copy of a letter from Miss Matilda Smedley, with inclosures, looking to the incorporation of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France.

A bill for this purpose (S. 7368) was passed by the Senate on February 28, 1903, and I am informed was reported favorably to the House of Representatives, where it failed of consideration.

In regard to this bill the Secretary of State, in a letter addressed to you, wrote:

"This Department has for a number of years taken much interest in the success of this movement, designed to establish in Paris a national institute for the study of art, which will at the same time afford a home for young American men and women students, surrounding them with the wholesome influences and moral protection so desirable in a great capital.

"By referring to Senate Document No. 398, Fifty-sixth Congress, first session, you will find the purposes of the institute fully explained and a gratifying showing of the progress made toward its accomplishment. It has received the cordial support of the municipal administration of Paris, which has generously offered a large and valuable site on renewable lease at a nominal ground rent of 1 franc per annum for the construction of the buildings of the institute. That document (No. 398) gives plots of the 14 sites from which to make selection.

"While occupying temporary quarters during the past three years, the institute has shown its capacity for good, both in its educational and in its moral sense. It has enlisted sympathy in France as well as in the United States, and now holds important donations of money and valuable works of art toward its establishment and maintenance. A good working nucleus for the necessary collections of paintings, statuary, and books already exists. Once set on a practical footing, with appropriate recognition of its character by the Governments of the United States and of France, the rapid development and enlargement of its sphere of utility and protection may be expected with confidence."

It is sincerely hoped that Congress, during its present session, will recognize this meritorious project by the passage of a bill of the character inclosed.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADEE,  
*Acting Secretary.*

HON. WILLIAM P. FRYE,  
*President pro tempore United States Senate.*

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2 IOWA CIRCLE,  
Washington, D. C., January 21, 1904.

DEAR SIR: I inclose you several papers recently received, which set forth the progress of the work of the American National Institute at Paris. You will please notice that there is nothing further to be done in Paris, that the success or failure depends upon the Congress of the United States. The municipal council of the city of Paris is ready to make decision regarding the location of ground which was donated



several years ago, and Document 398 sets forth maps from which we are to make selection. You will notice in reading over the letter of Henry von Daur, the secretary of the work, they await our decision. A bill to incorporate this work passed the Senate and was reported to the House last session, and we have been assured of its full recognition at this present session.

It would seem from this question being agitated by so many influential people the time had come. Among those who are greatly interested is Consul-General Gowdy, at Paris, in his recent letter to Senator Frye.

The Department of State having given us support, we beg the continuance of the same in any direction which may hasten the decision of Congress.

Yours, very sincerely,

MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder-General.*

Hon. JOHN HAY,  
*Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.*

P. S.—May I add, if necessary the Federation of Arts and Science throughout the United States will send delegates to present the cause to the committee which may be appointed by Congress to receive them.

M. S.

[Frederic Crowninshield, president; Herbert Adams, vice-president; Francis C. Jones, treasurer Henry Rutgers Marshall, secretary, 8 West Twenty-ninth street, New York.]

THE FINE ARTS FEDERATION OF NEW YORK,  
*215 West Fifty-seventh Street.*

National Academy of Design.  
New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.  
American Water Color Society.  
Society of American Artists.  
The Architectural League of New York.  
American Fine Arts Society.  
Municipal Art Society of New York.  
Society of Beaux-Arts Architects.  
National Sculpture Society.  
The Mural Painters.  
New York Water Color Club.

PORTLAND, ME., *April 20, 1904.*

MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder and Director-General American National Institute.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have your folios. Why does this matter of passing bill to incorporate the institute go so hard with our Congressmen? I made a great effort to find you when last in New York, about a month ago.

With regards,

JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN.

**PETITION SIGNED BY ONE HUNDRED STUDENTS, FORWARDED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THEODORE ROOSEVELT.**

NOVEMBER 29, 1901.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder and Director-General of the American National Institute,  
Paris, France:*

We, the undersigned American students studying in Paris, desire to express our full appreciation of your efforts and unselfish devotion for eight years to establish the American National Institute (Prix de Paris), and we sincerely hope that the students securing scholarships, after winning the prizes, as well as those benefited in a less substantial way, will feel that they owe something to the country that provided such opportunities for them.

We know that the French nation, through its highest and best representatives in the arts and letters, has given its warmest support to this work in the most unselfish

and generous manner. We hope that this generosity will soon be acknowledged by our Government through an action of Congress as a fitting answer.

The French Government has shown its friendliness to the United States in many ways, but it seems to us that no act of generosity will redound to so much good to our country as this last magnificent gift of a building site for the American National Institute.

A few years ago the French Government presented to our country the Statue of Liberty, and our Government lost no time in appropriating the money for a fitting pedestal. This time the French Government has given the pedestal, and it remains for our country to help the students and the statue, of which the building is but the beginning.

In consideration of our inexhaustible resources in industry and commerce, accompanied by our immense national wealth, there can be no doubt of the result of this petition to our President, Mr. Theodore Roosevelt.

We beg of you, Miss Smedley, to forward this expression to Washington, addressed to the President of the United States, and through him we hope the proper authorities will give their earliest attention to our humble petition.

Name of student.	Where studied.	United States address.
F. P. Schall	Chicago Art Institute	Chicago, Ill.
E. E. Hogeboom	Philadelphia Academy	Auburn, N. Y.
S. J. Whelan	Rhode Island School of Design	Providence, R. I.
J. J. Stevens	Pratt Institute	Cedar Falls, Iowa.
Geo. W. Schneider	Art Institute	Syene, Wis.
G. J. Perrett	do.	Chicago, Ill.
Antonio Sterba	Chicago Art Academy	Do.
G. Frank Muller	Munich Royal Academy	Cincinnati, Ohio.
E. S. Summers	Pratt Institute	Milwaukee, Wis.
Florence G. Bell	do.	Chicago, Ill.
Ward Brown	Art Institute, Chicago	Denver, Colo.
George T. Porter	Normal Art	Boston, Mass.
C. W. Buckham	New York	Burlington, Vt.
H. S. Rice	Boston	Boston, Mass.
F. A. Gendrot	Normal Art School	Do.
Hans Schuler	Maryland Institute	Baltimore, Md.
D. Garretson	Art League and National Academy, New York	Buffalo, N. Y.
E. A. Badford	University of Chicago	Chicago, Ill.
D. W. Humphrey	Art Institute, Chicago	Elkhorn, Wis.
Mr. Barthold	New York Academy of Design	Baltimore, Md.
E. T. Terster	Paris	Rochester, N. Y.
B. McArthur	Cincinnati Art Academy	Port Gibson, Miss.
Gahfee Brandt	Paris	Chicago.
H. A. Buelere	Art Institute, Chicago	Do.
A. I. Abermerthy	Cincinnati	Arkansas.
A. Froelochs	New York	Pittsburg, Pa.
J. F. Kaufman	Ecole Nationale des Beaux Arts, Paris	Richmond, Va.
Beatrice Baxter	Boston Art Museum	Denver, Colo.
Ellen D. Stuart	Paris and Dresden	Staunton, Va.
Mrs. Annetto A. Riddell	Art Institute, Chicago	Chicago, Ill.
Adalene B. Hunt	Syracuse University	Onelda, N. Y.
Corwin Knapp Linson	Paris Ecole des Beaux Arts	New York City.
Hy S. Watson	Philadelphia and Paris	The Players' Club, New York.
Annie Prickett Linson	Cooper Institute, New York; Paris	New York City.
Louise Eugenie Frulsett	do.	Rhels, France.
William Theodore Peters	Brooklyn	Long Island, N. Y.
William H. Cotton	Cowles Art School, Boston	Newport, R. I.
Wm. W. Riddell	Chicago Art Institute	Chicago, Ill.
Alpheus F. Cole	Paris	Jersey City.
Glenn Madison Brown	Art Students' League	Washington, D. C.
E. A. Sweet	Paris	New York City.
Edward F. Lukesh	Art Students' League, New York	Akron, Ohio.
H. M. Hartshorn	Paris	New York, N. Y.
F. Kaufman	Carnegie Institute	Pittsburg, Pa.
Ernest Leitholf	do.	Do.
Scott C. Canbee	Providence, R. I.	Providence, R. I.
Albert Meyman	Holyoke	Holyoke, Mass.
J. Maxwell Miller	Baltimore	Baltimore, Md.
W. R. Johns	Pittsburg	Pittsburg, Pa.
Mihram H. Kevorkian	Philadelphia, Pa.	Philadelphia, Pa.
C. W. Coleman	Paris	New York City.
Charles Bittinger	Paris and New York	Washington, D. C.
Robert T. McKee	San Francisco	San Francisco, Cal.
B. T. Willis	Corcoran School of Art	Washington, D. C.
F. A. Sawyer	Art Academy	Chicago, Ill.
John H. Alger	Dowell School of Design	Boston, Mass.
Olivia Blanchard	New Orleans	Paris.
Therese P. B. Coles	Philadelphia	Do.
Mrs. John Thornton Wood	Washington, D. C.	Washington, D. C.
H. F. Van Wyeen	Bye, N. Y., U. S.	

Name of student.	Where studied.	United States address.
Alice S. McIlwaine.....	Paris.....	
Isabel G. MacIlwaine.....	do.....	
R. E. Williams.....	do.....	California.
O. L. Linde.....	do.....	Chicago, Ill.
Ephra Vogelsang.....	Chicago, Ill.....	Do.
Alice M. Prince.....	Paris.....	Do.
Anita de Leftwich-Dodge.....	do.....	Virginia.
Cora M. Lane.....	Los Angeles, Cal.....	California.
M. de Leftwich-Dodge.....	Aue de Waglan.....	Paris, Va.
Helen Braden.....	Los Angeles, Cal.....	Montezuma, Iowa.
Mrs. A. T. Lane.....	Waterloo, Iowa.....	
Josephine C. Locke.....	Chicago, Ill.....	
Elizabeth Knadsen.....	do.....	
Howard C. Egger.....	Paris.....	Allegheny, Pa.
Abbot Lowood.....	do.....	Washington.
Olivia Blanchard.....	do.....	New Orleans, La.
E. J. Holtsbecher.....	do.....	Philadelphia.
Lucie Hatrach.....	do.....	Chicago.
Clarence Dickinson.....	do.....	Do.
Eleanor Weare Pearson.....	do.....	New York.
Florence A. Carpenter.....	do.....	Kansas City.
Lucy Darby.....	do.....	Louisville, Ky.
H. Wyer.....	do.....	New Orleans, La.
Helen Morris Richards.....	Germany and Paris.....	Newark, N. J.
Alice B. G. Morris.....	Munich.....	Do.
Francis R. Abbott.....	Paris and Philadelphia.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
Alice Rohde.....	Paris.....	Chicago, Ill.
Sarah P. Rohde.....	do.....	Do.

Closed May 9, 1901.

Received by Miss Smedley August, 1901.

Forwarded to President Roosevelt January, 1902.

AMBASSADE DES ÉTATS-UNIS,  
Paris, le 18 Décembre 1903.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: It is with much pleasure that I have read the new documents which you have sent me relative to the American National Institute Prix de Paris, and I congratulate you as well as the members of the board of trustees on having conducted this matter to the point where its success is assured. Those who, like myself, desire to see their compatriots profit more extensively by the artistic, literary, and scientific culture which can only be found in France, will be deeply grateful to you.

In the United States, as you know, there is one general voice of approval and encouragement for your enterprise.

The letter of Senator Frye, President of the Senate; that of Mr. Hay, the Secretary of State; that of Mr. Adee, the under Secretary of State, as well as the flattering note which President Roosevelt wrote in your golden book, all testify to this fact.

It is now the duty of our French friends to show that they take the same interest that we do in the success of this institution. Now is the time for this. Tell them before you leave, and say to Mr. Von Daur, the zealous and disinterested general secretary of the institute, that he must repeat it to them during your absence, which I hope will be a short one. My best wishes accompany you.

I beg you to believe, dear Miss Smedley, in the sincerity of your devoted servant,

HENRY VIGNAUD,

First Secretary of the United States Embassy at Paris.

Mlle. MATILDA SMEDLEY,

Fondatrice et Directrice de l'American National Institute, Paris.

## A PARTIAL LIST OF NAMES OF PERSONS SUPPORTING THE INCORPORATION OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

- Theodore Roosevelt.  
 Right Rev. Bishop Potter.  
 Horace Porter, ambassador to France.  
 John K. Gowdy, United States consul at Paris.  
 Levi P. Morton.  
 Richard Watson Gilder.  
 Colin Armstrong.  
 Cardinal Gibbons.  
 Archbishop Ireland.  
 Charles P. Gardner, president New England Conservatory.  
 Alvey A. Adey.  
 John Hay.  
 Wm. H. Taft.  
 Mrs. Elizabeth Cary Agassiz, president Radcliffe College.  
 George W. Chadwick, director New England Conservatory.  
 James L. Whitney, librarian Boston Public Library.  
 Rev. Dr. Burrell.  
 Edward T. Robinson, director Museum Fine Arts, Boston.  
 Rev. Dr. Van Dyck.  
 Mme. Etta Edwards, Boston.  
 Carl Smith.  
 A. M. Hume, Boston.  
 J. C. Goodrich.  
 Ex-Governor Larrabee.  
 M. Knodler.  
 Mrs. A. M. Coleman.  
 Frederick G. Smedley.  
 Mrs. Jackson.  
 Charles N. Wood, consul-general, Rome.  
 Thomas M. A. Burke, bishop of Albany.  
 W. L. Whitney.  
 Flora Adams Darling.  
 Thomas Allen, A. N. A., S. A. A., chairman school council, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.  
 Mr. W. H. Mooney.  
 Alexander Steinart, Boston.  
 Jules Cambon, ex-ambassador to the United States.  
 Mr. J. J. Jusserand, ambassador of France, Washington, D. C.  
 F. Delmas, de L'Opira.  
 John S. Wise.  
 P. R. Uhler, Peabody Institute.  
 Alexander C. Morgan.  
 E. Vandremmer.  
 T. L. Pascal.  
 Jules Lemaitre.  
 Rev. Dr. Faunce.  
 Dr. Baker, Georgetown University.  
 L. H. Kauffmann.  
 Louis C. Tiffany.  
 Senator Hawley.  
 Richard Norton, archæologist, Rome.  
 Cardinal Rampolla.  
 Mrs. W. Taylor.  
 Mrs. Angie King Hicks.  
 Louis Coepany, de L'Opira.  
 Theodore Stanton.  
 Maurice Grau.  
 C. M. Rubens.  
 Edward Laugerbach.  
 Paul Boeusuëllwald.  
 Jean Paul Laurens.  
 Sully Prudhomme.  
 Mrs. A. M. Coleman.  
 A. Mattany.  
 W. D. Smedley.  
 Mrs. M. C. La Duc.  
 Mrs. W. A. Henderson.  
 Madame La Countess von Daur.  
 J. W. Smedley.  
 Mary Clementine Smedley.  
 Gustave Gottheil, rabbi of Temple Emmanuel.  
 M. A. Corrigan, archbishop of New York.  
 Archbishop Farley.  
 Capt. H. Spliedt.  
 Ada May Benzing.  
 Mr. Metz.  
 C. H. Kintermann.  
 Senator Cotzmosean.  
 M. F. Loblugen.  
 J. H. F. Bouffard, D. D.  
 Rev. D. Z. Waterbury.  
 Mr. Warren H. Thompson.  
 Edgar Goodspeed.  
 Mr. Sol B. Solomon.  
 Ethel Holbrook Perkins.  
 Lola B. Brown.  
 Geo. L. Brown.  
 J. C. Knecht.  
 Zora Weaver.  
 Robert Newton Shaw.  
 Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Henckel.  
 Mrs. Wm. Harcourt.  
 Mr. Hughson Hawley.  
 Mr. Hakey.  
 Mrs. Harriman.  
 Irving Hazen.  
 Mrs. Laurence Hutton.  
 Mr. Hayes.  
 Claude Raguet Hirst.  
 Mrs. Otto Heirety.  
 Miss Helen Howe.  
 Mrs. Learitt Hawe.  
 M. et Madame Adolf Haffner.  
 D. S. Hammond.  
 Stella Heilburn.  
 Count Henri.  
 Elizabeth Hartmann.  
 Jennie Hunter.  
 Frances Gilman Howard.  
 Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Hinkel.  
 Alice Fisher Harcourt.  
 Mrs. L. W. Holcomb.  
 John W. Harrington.  
 H. L. Hogwet.  
 J. Scott Hartley.  
 Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Henderson.  
 Anna Bulkeley Hills.  
 William A. Houghton.  
 Emiline M. Holbrook.  
 Mr. J. M. Hoy.

James G. Howard.  
 Anne E. Houston.  
 Mrs. Havens and daughters.  
 Henry Hencourt.  
 H. W. Hardon.  
 Emile A. Huber.  
 Estelle Howe.  
 Mrs. Emeline Kinney.  
 Misses Kendall.  
 Mrs. Clarence V. Kip.  
 Sara A. Lande.  
 Alex. Lambert, New York Conservatory  
 of Music.  
 Mrs. Seth Low.  
 Ida H. Layard.  
 Louise B. Lindeke.  
 E. W. Leyster.  
 Lydia G. Laurence.  
 Mr. Lyamon.  
 Herbert Levy, Metropolitan School of  
 Fine Arts.  
 Mrs. La Duc.  
 Mrs. F. Kaiser.  
 Athalie Clarie Kayne.  
 Roland Knoedler.  
 Paul Kauffmann.  
 Jessie L. Knight.  
 G. A. Kendrick, principal of Vassar Col-  
 lege.  
 Edith C. Korn.  
 John P. Korn.  
 Julia N. Kent.  
 Laura Celestine Kinley.  
 Mary L. Kelley.  
 Ida Lurig Klann.  
 J. Henry McKinley.

Mary Kollock.  
 A. Eugène Kirby.  
 Louise Hogeman.  
 Maud Ingram.  
 E. W. Irvin.  
 Sir Henry Irving.  
 Van Ingen, Vassar College.  
 H. J. de Psory Ingram.  
 F. von Inten.  
 Antranig T. Ishkatieh.  
 Mrs. Conrad Jameson.  
 Mr. Robert Jameson.  
 Caroline Jenkins.  
 Eastman Johnson.  
 Emma C. K. Jack.  
 Theodore L. Jabine.  
 F. H. Jacobs.  
 Joseph Jefferson, actor.  
 Elizabeth Johnson, M. D.  
 H. M. Jackson.  
 Theodor L. Jabine.  
 Mrs. Richard Lacy.  
 Miss Blanche Larrible.  
 Mrs. Dr. J. W. Lyon.  
 F. J. Lomis.  
 Warren F. Leeland.  
 Chas. F. McKim, architect.  
 Mrs. D. J. Mercure.  
 Mr. Edward Mitchell.  
 Mrs. Woolsey Mitchell.  
 Wm. Mitchell.  
 S. S. Murray.  
 J. Francis Murphy.  
 Katherine Smith Middletown.  
 Geo. W. Moynard.

40 EAST SIXTY-EIGHTH STREET, NEW YORK, April 21, 1904.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,

*Founder and Director-General American National Institute.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I inclose you a rough copy of a letter I have mailed to the following Congressmen: Mr. Cockran, Mr. Sulzer, Mr. Fitzgerald, and Mr. Sullivan.

Truly, yours,

JOHN D. CRIMMINS.

[Copy.]

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ———: I have an intimate acquaintance with Senate bill No. 4594, "to incorporate the American National Institute at Paris, France."

It is a most worthy cause, and will be creditable to our country when the establishment is completed.

A month ago in Paris I visited American friends, and was advised that a number of American ladies look after American students, particularly the girls, and that one good woman, from her own purse, recently paid the expenses of six girls home.

Present conditions in Paris in relation to American students, particularly girls, are most regrettable, and the dangers they are exposed to are a menace to their moral welfare. But still they come—not so much from the cities, like New York, but from the country districts.

They have probably manifested some signs of talent, measured by the standard of the people among whom they live, and with the consent of fond and proud parents they go to Paris to study the arts, as it were, but a small percentage never get beyond a picture gallery. These young people are unacquainted with the language or habits of Paris.

By the enactment of this bill it is the purpose of the association, in the establishment of the institute, to protect and advise the aspiring young man and woman who go to Paris to study in the various arts. The purposes have many merits besides these, which I should not care to disclose in a letter. I hope you will favor this bill, which I commend to you most sincerely, and aid its passage by your vote.

Faithfully, yours,

JOHN D. CRIMMINS, New York.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: You are to be congratulated. I think it is wonderful what you have accomplished, and if the nation does build that institution, posterity—to the judgment day—will call you blessed.

E. SEILLIERE.

MARCH 23, 1905.

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PARIS, *March 30, 1905.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am in receipt of your note and documents. In reply beg to say that you are at liberty to use my name as one of the incorporators of the American National Institute in Paris.

LEVI P. MORTON.

CONSULATE-GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
36 Avenue de l'Opera, Paris, December 2, 1904.

Miss MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
24 Avenue de Saxe, Paris.

DEAR Miss SMEDLEY: I am very glad to learn that you have so much encouragement with reference to the establishment of an American National Institute in the city of Paris.

It is unnecessary for me to repeat the very many reasons why an institution of this kind should be erected in Paris and managed and controlled by our Government authority. It is certainly encouraging to realize that your long service in this regard is now about to be rewarded by the American Government in authorizing a National Educational Institute in Paris.

There are many reasons why such an institution would also be of lasting benefit to the very many American students who come to Europe, and especially to Paris, to obtain advanced ideas in higher education. There is no doubt but what the desire to come abroad is on the increase with young American students, and for this reason a national institute, properly managed and controlled by Government authority, will be a guarantee for honest, intelligent, and industrious students for proper protection while abroad.

With sincere congratulations and hoping for your success in this good work,

I am, very respectfully, yours,

JOHN K. GOWDY,  
*American Consul-General.*

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[From the New York Herald, Paris, Sunday, March 12, 1905.]

AN AMERICAN GIRL RESCUED FROM A HOPELESS STATE BY THE LETTER COLUMN—MR. J. K. GOWDY'S TRIBUTE—RESULT OF GENEROSITY OF MRS. HOFF, DOCTOR GROS, MR. F. K. CLARKE, AND OTHERS.

*To the Editor of the Herald:*

I am glad to say that the "American girl," who was mentioned in your columns some weeks ago as being very ill and unable to care for herself, either physically or financially, is now on her way to America in charge of a competent nurse and will be properly cared for until she reaches her home in Illinois.

Much credit is due to the Herald for the publicity given to this sad case, requesting subscriptions to aid the young lady. Mrs. Hoff, Doctor Gros, Mr. F. K. Clarke, and others liberally responded to the call. Thanks to these kind-hearted Americans, all expenses have been paid, and not a penny wasted.

I gladly take this opportunity to testify to the generous support given by the Herald in all cases of distress in Paris. It is timely help, for scarcely a day passes without appeals being made to the consulate by American citizens in distress. Unfortunately there is no fund placed by the Government in a consul's hands for the assistance of ordinary citizens in distress.

JOHN K. GOWDY,  
*American Consul.*

PARIS, March 11, 1905.

AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS,  
18 AVENUE KLEBER,  
Paris, September 6, 1901.

His Excellency ROBERT McCORMICK,  
*United States Ambassador, Vienna.*

MY DEAR AMBASSADOR: Permit me to introduce to you the bearer of these lines, Mr. von Daur, who is secretary-general of the American National Institute of this city, an institution in which we all take interest and of which he is one of the founders.

I commend him to your official courtesy and remain,  
Most respectfully, yours,

HENRY VIGNAUD,  
*First Secretary of the United States Embassy, Paris.*

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
*Vienna, Austria, am 4. October 1901.*

EUER HOCHWOHLGEBOREN: Hiermit beehre ich mich euer Hochwohlgeboren in dem Ueberbringer dieses Schreibens Herrn Henri von Daur, General-Sekretär des "Amerikanischen National Institutes" in Paris bestens vorzustellen.

Das "Amerikanische National Institut" in Paris wird für die Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika dieselbe Rolle erfüllen, wie der "Prix de Rom" für die in Rom weilenden Franzosen, d. h. den Studenten welche nach Ablegung eines rigorösen Exams ein Stipendium für 3 Jahre erhalten, ist es unter gewissen Bedingungen auch freigestellt einen Theil ihrer Zeit in Europa zuzubringen und andere Kunst Institute zu besuchen.

Herr von Daur wird euer Hochwohlgeboren bitten die Güte zu haben solchen Studenten welche eventuell nach Wien kommen werden um während einer bestimmten Zeit etwa eines Jahres zur Vervollständigung ihrer Studien daselbst zu verweilen ihre geneigte Protection und Leitung angedeihen lassen zu wollen.

Die Gesandtschaft beehrt sich jedes gutige Entgegenkommen welches euer Hochwohlgeboren den Herrn von Daur in dieser Angelegenheit erweisen mögen im voraus ihren verbindlichsten Dank auszusprechen.

Genehmigen euer Hochwohlgeboren den Ausdruck meiner vorzüglichsten Hochachtung.

Gezeichnet ROBERT S. McCORMICK,  
*Gesandter der Vereinigten Staaten von America in Wien.*

Seiner Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Professor Ritter CARL VON ZUMBUSCH,  
*Rector der K. K. Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Wien.*

LETTERS OF INTRODUCTION OF HIS EXCELLENCY ROBERT M'CORMICK, UNITED STATES  
AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA, VIENNA.

Sr. Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Professor Ritter Carl von Zumbusch befor Rector der K. K. Akademie der bildenden Künste.

Sr. Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Professor Hellmer, derzeit Rector der K. K. Akademie der bildenden Künste.

Sr. Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Ritter von Perger, Director des Conservatoriums für Musick und darstellende Kunst der Gesellschaft der Musickfreunde in Wien.

Sr. Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Jacob Schipper, K. K. Hofrath und Rector der K. K. Universität in Wien.

Sr. Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Sections Chef von Stadler, K. K. Ministerium für Cultus und Unterricht.

Sr. Hochwohlgeboren Herrn von Wiener, K. K. Hofrath, Referent des Sections Chefs von Stadler Conservatorium.

Sr. Hochwohlgeboren Herrn Joseph Carabacek, K. K. Hofrath und Director der K. K. Hof-Bibliothek.



WIEN, 8. Dezember 1901.

Hochw ehrter H<sup>ER</sup>E GENERAL SEKRETÄR:

Herrn Sections Chef von Stadler habe ich von ihrer Mission benachrichtigt, er wird sich freuen wenn sie ihm Morgen zwischen 10 und 12 Uhr mit einem Besuche beehren (Ministerium für Kultus und Unterricht, 1 Minoritenplatz 7).

In der Akademie der bildenden Künste, 1 Schillerplatz 3, habe ich sie ebenfalls angekündigt. Da der jetzige Rector Professor Hellmer nicht ständig im Hause ist bitte ich sich an den Sekretär der Akademie Regierungsrath Lott zu wenden.

Mit collegialem Grusse, ganz ergebenst,

C. v. ZUMBUSCH.

SR. HOCHWOHLGEBOREN HERRN HENRI VON DAUR,

*General-Sekretär des Amerikanischen Institutes in Paris.*

SEKRETARIAT DER KAISERLICH KÖNIGLICHEN AKADEMIE DER BILDENDEN KÜNSTE,

Wien, 14. October 1901.

Sehr Geehrter HERR: Ich erlaube mir Ihnen höflichst mitzutheilen, dass der derderzeitige Rector Akademie, Herr Professor Hellmer, sehr erfreut sein würde, wenn sie ihm am Mittwoch den 16 d. M. zwischen 10 and 12 Uhr in seinem Akademie-Atelier (Schillerplatz 3) die Ehre ihres Besuches erweisen wollten.

Ihr Hochachtungsvoll Ergebener,

LOTT, K. K. Regierungsrath.

SR. HOCHWOHLGEBOREN HERRN HENRI VON DAUR,

*General Sekretär des Amerikanischen National Institutes in Paris*

## PROPOSED AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS.

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[S. Doc. No. 398, Fifty-sixth Congress, first session.]

*The Senate and House of Representatives:*

I transmit herewith a report from the Secretary of State in regard to the proposed American National Institute at Paris, to be erected on ground to be donated by the Government of France, and to be free from taxation.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, *May 23, 1900.*

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To the PRESIDENT:

I transmit herewith, with a view to its submission to Congress, should you deem that course proper, copy of a letter of March 28, 1900, with its several accompaniments, from Miss Matilda Smedley, founder and director-general, in regard to the proposed American National Institute at Paris. On this point Miss Smedley says:

"I need only remark that the French Government not only has granted a valuable site on which to erect suitable buildings in the city of Paris for the purpose indicated, but that it has made it possible that such a structure, as you have so worthily stated, 'to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American National Institute for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study,' shall remain forever free from taxation."

It will be found by further reference to Miss Smedley's letter that an appropriation of \$250,000 is desired with which to erect a suitable building on the site to be selected.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN HAY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, May 22, 1900.*

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WASHINGTON, *March 28, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to lay before you, knowing your interest in the subject, a letter I have addressed to the President in regard to the American National Institute at Paris.

I should personally appreciate whatever you may be able to do toward inducing the President to submit my letter to Congress in accordance with my suggestion, with such recommendation as he may feel the subject merits.

Thanking you very kindly for your interest and attention in the matter, I am,

Very truly, yours,

MATILDA SMEDLEY.

HON. JOHN HAY,  
*Secretary of State.*

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *March 28, 1900.*

To the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:

It will be recalled that in your message to Congress of December 5, 1899, you made use of the following language:

"The United States Government building is approaching completion, and no effort will be spared to make it worthy, in beauty of architectural plan and in completeness of display, to represent our nation. It has been suggested that a permanent building of similar or appropriate design be erected on a convenient site, already given by

the municipality, near the exposition grounds, to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American National Institute, for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study."

As you know, for years I have been deeply interested in a scheme known as the American National Institute (Prix de Paris). The aim of this institute is to procure for the young men and women of the United States advantage of finishing in France their education in literature and the sciences, as well as in the different branches of the arts; for example, painting, engraving, sculpture, architecture, music, and the drama. Scholarships (Prix de Paris) will also be created similar to the scholarships (Prix de Rome) which are awarded to French artists.

As showing more in detail the facts in regard to this matter, which can not fail, when fully understood by the people of the United States, to elicit their warm appreciation and deserve their approbation, I quote as a part of this communication a report by the municipal councilor, showing conclusively that the Government of France has granted and is ready to negotiate with the American National Institute, or its duly authorized representatives, for a plot of ground in the city of Paris for the purpose of establishing the equivalent for the youth of America of the schools furnished by France at Athens and Rome. A literal translation of the report reads as follows:

*Municipal Council of Paris, 1899.*

REPORT.

In the name of the fourth commission, with a view of granting to the American National Institute the concession of a plat of ground in the city of Paris for the purpose of establishing the equivalent, for the youth of America, of the schools furnished by France at Rome and Athens, presented by M. Emile Clairin, municipal councilor.

GENTLEMEN: The American National Institute, authorized by the State of New York, on the 9th day of December, 1895, has addressed to you a petition asking for the concession of a plat of ground in the city of Paris upon which to construct a palace corresponding to our academy at Rome and our school at Athens.

The aim of this institute is to procure for the young men and women of the United States the advantage of finishing in France their education—literary, scientific, or in the different branches of the arts: Painting, engraving, sculpture, architecture, music, dramatic art, etc. Scholarships (Prix de Paris) will also be created similar to the scholarships (Prix de Rome) which are awarded to our artists.

The maintenance of the institute will be assured by the maintenance of the scholarships created, either by private persons or by the forty-five States of the Union. The construction of the palace would be defrayed by an official grant of 1,250,000 francs, and, we must add, it would already have been begun but for a legal hindrance preventing the United States Government from acquiring property, directly or indirectly, in a foreign country.

This project was from the very first much approved of in America, and we have before us a list of about 800 adherents, and we find the institute has already received important endowments, such as that of Mrs. Walden-Pell, honorable president of the institute, amounting to 500,000 francs, for the creation of a scholarship for music to bear her name; that of Mrs. James Jackson, in memory of her husband, of the like sum, with the further promise of contributing toward the establishment of the institute library; that of Mrs. Frank Leslie, of New York, amounting to 25,000 francs, etc. You will find elsewhere, attached to this report, the names of the members of the first committee, the composition of which you will appreciate at its full value.

We regret we are unable to place before you the long list, read by us, of the marks of sympathy and adhesion that the American National Institute has obtained in France among artists and literary and scientific men.

We are not surprised at this, for this enterprise, of such great utility to the youth of America, is invested with a grandeur which will not escape you. Your commission has considered that it can not remain indifferent to this, the more that you, like ourselves, are greatly touched by this fresh homage paid to the city of Paris, considered in the light of the luminous center of civilization.

Unfortunately, it is impossible for us, on many accounts, to make the institute the free gift of a municipal plat of ground for the erection of its palace. But it has appeared to your fourth commission that all difficulties could be avoided by conceding to the institute, under certain conditions to be discussed, a piece of ground for a long period—fifty years, for instance—and renewable, for the nominal rent of 1 franc yearly. We can not further discuss the contract to intervene. It suffices to-day to make its outlines. You will have to examine it in detail in your next sitting, if, as

we hope, you return the petition in question with a favorable notice to the prefect of the Seine, that he may enter into negotiation with the founders of the American National Institute.

We can not but suppose ourselves to be the interpreters of the entire council, as we are already of your commission of education and the fine arts, in respectfully congratulating Miss Matilda Smedley, founder of the institute, upon her generous and noble initiative.

If it is of interest to the youth of America, if the city of Paris should rejoice at it, the whole of France will applaud, happy in the glory of her artists and the genius of her scholars, proud of the light they shed on the world.

The reporter.

EMILE CLAIRIN.

#### PROJECT OF DELIBERATION.

The council, after due examination of the petition No. 3170, of the American National Institute; after due examination of the report of Mr. E. Clairin, in the name of the fourth commission, decide:

ARTICLE 1. That the administration be invited to open negotiations with the founders of the American National Institute, with the view of conceding to them, by a long lease, renewable, at an annual rent of 1 franc, a plat of ground belonging to the city of Paris, for the construction of the palace of said institute.

ARTICLE 2. That the intervening contract be submitted to the municipal council during its next sitting.

(The fourth commission—education, fine arts—is composed of Messrs. Clairin, president; Hattat, vice-president; Archain, secretary; Bellan, Blondel, Paul Brousse, Chausse, Gay, John Labusquiere, Lampue, Marsoulan, Louis Mill, Alfred Moreau, Parisse, Pierpraud, Vorbe.)

[Translation.]

VILLE DE PARIS CONSEIL MUNICIPAL,  
*Paris, December 28, 1899.*

The founder, MATILDA SMEDLEY, and  
Secretary-General Mr. HENRI VON DAUR.

MADAM AND SIR: I am happy to inform you that the municipal council has voted the resolution adopted by the fourth commission; and which I had the honor of forwarding you, with regard to the American National Institute.

Pray accept the assurance of my most distinguished and devoted sentiments.

CLAIRIN.

PREFECTURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE SEINE,  
*Paris, February 6, 1900.*

M. HENRY VON DAUR,  
*Avenue d'Éna 50.*

SIR: In accordance with your request, I have the honor of forwarding you the following list of plats of ground belonging to the city of Paris, the dimensions and sites of which appear to be convenient for the eventual erection of the salons of the American National Institute:

1°. Avenue de Suffren, corner of Quai d'Orsay; surface, 1,319.21 meters. This ground is actually occupied by the Society of the Maréorama in virtue of a lease.

2°. Avenue de Suffren; surface, 1,357.60 meters. This ground is occupied by the Palace of Optics in virtue of a lease expiring July 1, 1901.

3°. Site of the old Grenelle slaughterhouses, Avenue de Breteuil; surface, 32,000 meters. This ground is let to the Society of French Artists, and will be disposable on December 31, 1900.

4°. Rue Robert Estienne; surface, 2,000 meters. This ground is actually occupied by a deposit of materials which could be transported elsewhere.

5°. The old Villejuif slaughterhouses; surface, 26,000 meters. These slaughterhouses are on the point of being disaffected.

6°. Boulevard Raspail et Rue Schoelcher; surface, 2,774 meters.

7°. Boulevards Raspail, Edgar Quinet, and Rue E. Richard; surface, 3,706 meters.

8°. Rues Victor Considerant, Schoelcher, and Boulevard Raspail; surface, 3,647 meters.

9°. Rues Guy de Maupassant et Mignard, 1,440 meters.

10°. Rues Edmond About et Emile Augier; surface, 2,925 meters.

11°. Boulevard Jules Sandeau, Rues Eug. Labiche et de Franqueville; surface, 5,146 meters.

12°. Boulevards Lannes et Flandrin et Rue Dufrenoy; surface, 4,900 meters.

13°. Boulevards de Pasteur et de Vaugisard; surface, 3,093 meters.

14°. Boulevard Pasteur et Rue des Fourneaux; surface, 2,340 meters.

You will find attached the plans of these different plats of ground. I must ask you, after having examined them, kindly to return them to me, and let to me know which is the one you choose.

As I have already had the honor of explaining to you, for a certain number of these plats of land certain difficulties will arise for the affectation of the price of same to operations engaged, but it will be for the municipal council to decide what can be done.

Your proposition will then be submitted to the municipal council with notification from the administration.

Receive, sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

The prefect of the Seine (by authority).

The director of the municipal business, A. Menant.

#### THE WALDEN-PELL SCHOLARSHIP.

My long residence of thirty years in France, my adopted country, has given me the opportunity of knowing the necessity there exists for the American National Institute for the young students of my native country; and in honor of this work by Miss Matilda Smedley I give a \$10,000 scholarship for music, to be controlled by her and to be entitled the "Walden-Pell" scholarship, donated on my eighty-eighth birthday, October 2, 1898.

December 15, 1898.

Mrs. WALDEN-PELL, *Paris, France.*

#### JACKSON SCHOLARSHIP.

Having resided many years in France, and in memory of my late husband, Mr. James Jackson, I donate to the American National Institute, Prix de Paris (which is to be built in Paris, France), a scholarship of \$10,000; also objets d'art, various gifts of paintings, engravings, photographs, and a valuable collection of books to found the library.

I will also furnish three rooms.

December 9, 1898.

MARY D. JACKSON (Mrs. James Jackson),  
15 Avenue d'Antin, *Paris, France.*

*Scholarship fund for the American National Institute, December 1, 1898.*

Baroness von Zedwitz .....	music...	\$500
Mrs. Frank Leslie .....	do....	5,000

Je recommande chaudement les efforts de Mademoiselle Smedley pour l'établissement de cette institution.

J. B. EUSTIS,  
*Ambassadeur des États-Unis à Paris, France.*

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE, PRÉFECTURE DE POLICE,  
*Paris, December 16, 1896.*

You were kind enough to recommend to me in your dispatch letter of the 12th instant, in very special terms, Miss Smedley, who desires to secure recognition as an

establishment of public utility for the association entitled "The American National Institute," now in the course of formation, in which your embassy is interested, the object of which is to create a center of encouragement for Americans who come to France to study the arts and literature. It gives me great pleasure to say that I have received Miss Smedley, together with Mrs. Gibbs, the lady who accompanied her. The papers of the association under notice were sent by me on the 12th instant to the prefect of the Seine, transmitting to him also the very favorable information which I have taken pains to collect on the subject of the proposed enterprise. I have, in the meantime, given these ladies the necessary information of the course to follow in order to secure at the fitting moment for this institution the recognition of the French Government as a work of public utility. I will add, Monsieur Ambassador, that the entire support of my administration has been made for the work undertaken by Miss Smedley, and I have every reason to believe that this work, patronized by the very best American society and by a large number of the notabilities in the arts and literature in America, as well as by a large part of the notabilities in the arts and literatures of my own country, will receive in France the best acceptance. Be pleased to accept, Monsieur Ambassador, the assurance of my very high consideration.

The prefect of police.

LEPINE.

To the AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

(On record at the American embassy in Paris.)

PARIS, le 2 décembre 1898.

MADAME: Vous avez bien voulu m'écrire, ainsi que Monsieur von Daur, pour me demander d'être membre honoraire du Conseil de l'American National Institute. Je ne puis qu'accepter l'offre honorable que vous m'adressez, et vous remercier, car l'œuvre dont vous poursuivez la réalisation est digne de toutes les sympathies.

Agréez, je vous prie, Madame, l'expression de ma considération la plus distinguée.

JULES CAMBON.

PARIS, 7 février 1899.

MON CHER PRÉFET: L'American National Institute se met en instance auprès de vous pour obtenir la concession d'un terrain de la ville de Paris, afin d'y construire un édifice destiné à remplir pour les Américains le rôle que remplit pour nous-mêmes notre Ecole de Rome.

Cette œuvre, née de l'initiative individuelle, comme toutes œuvres artistiques en Amérique, a déjà recueilli des ressources qui en assurent le succès. Elle est destinée à répandre l'influence, de la ville de Paris et à resserrer les liens de sympathie qui nous unissent à l'Amérique. Je serais heureux qu'il vous fût possible de donner une suite favorable à la demande de Mademoiselle Smedley, fondatrice de l'American National Institute.

Je profite de cette occasion, mon cher Préfet, pour vous renouveler l'expression de ma haute considération et de mes sentiments dévoués.

JULES CAMBON,

Ambassadeur de France à Washington.

AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS, 18 AVENUE KLÉBER,

Paris, le 20 janvier 1899.

MONSIEUR LE PRÉFET: Mon prédécesseur, Mr. Eustis, avait pris sous son patronage l'American National Institute que plusieurs de mes nationaux, et un certain nombre des vôtres, veulent fonder à Paris pour faciliter l'étude des arts aux jeunes américains des deux sexes, qui, chaque année, viennent chercher en France un enseignement supérieur. Cet institut étant une œuvre d'initiative particulière, je n'ai pas à intervenir dans les démarches qui peuvent assurer sa fondation. Je vous demande, cependant, la permission de vous présenter Mademoiselle Smedley qui s'est consacrée à cette œuvre et qui désire vous entretenir à ce sujet.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Préfet, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

HORACE PORTER.

Monsieur de SELVES,

Préfet de la Seine, Paris.

NEW YORK, January 31, 1896.

The undersigned trustees of the American National Institute, in addition to the formal vote authorizing Miss Smedley to continue the collection of subscriptions and contributions in aid of the institute, hereby offer the testimony of their personal approval and sympathy.

We have given earnest attention to the purposes and plans set forth by Miss Smedley and to the measures by which she has secured so admirable a beginning. She has labored zealously in this country to obtain a permanent charter and adequate support for this institute.

We heartily commend her to all who appreciate the value of this line of practical education, which in its scope and effect will be a great public benefit.

It is far from our wish to seem to encourage young girls to go abroad for study, and it is not the design of this institute to offer such inducements, but it will remain almost a necessity, certainly a persistent fact, that students who are obliged to make their talents for artistic work a means of support will be forced by what is almost a public demand to perfect their studies by a finishing course in Paris.

To those who know the condition of student life in that city an institute like this will warmly commend itself.

Miss Smedley has thorough knowledge of all the conditions to be provided for and has the cordial support of many of the most worthy and distinguished citizens of France in this good work. She should be sustained here.

Chauncey M. Depew; Thomas Hunter, president Normal College; Mary R. Callender, Caroline de Forest, Candace Wheeler, Frances A. Levy, Henri von Daur, M. G. Van Rensselaer, John D. Crimmins, Edward Walpole Warren, D. D.; Hon. Henry G. Marquand, president Metropolitan Art Museum; Sarah E. Buckbee, E. C. Edmunds, Judge John F. Dillon, LL. D.; Charles F. Hoffmann, D. D.; Gen. Joshua L. Chamberlain, ex-governor of Maine.

I need only remark that the French Government has not only granted a valuable site on which to erect a suitable building in the city of Paris for the purpose indicated, but that it has made it possible that such a structure, as you have so worthily stated, "to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American National Institute, for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study," shall remain forever free from taxation.

I may further observe that members of the Academy and Institute of France have signified their intention to support the American National Institute.

In view of all these facts and especially of the generosity and good will shown by the Government of France and its citizens, I trust I am not asking too much that this matter may now be brought to the attention of Congress, to the end that, in its wisdom, an appropriation of \$250,000 may be granted with which to erect a suitable structure in Paris upon the grounds so generously donated, to be known as the American National Institute, with all its immense advantages to the American youth, male and female.

When the gifts that have been donated are called in, their total value will not be less than \$100,000.

The scholarships that have been given are as follows:

Mrs. Walden-Pell .....	\$10,000
Mrs. James Jackson .....	10,000
Mrs. Frank Leslie .....	5,000
The Baroness Zedwitz .....	500

The institute will be self-sustaining through private contributions and scholarships, and no claim for any expense attendant upon its due and proper maintenance will be asked or expected from the Govern-

ment of the United States beyond the sum of \$250,000 for the erection of the structure.

In this connection I submit, as an appendix to this report, 14 building sites, any one of which is suitable and may be selected. One-half of these is valued at \$250,000 each, while the least would at a low estimate be \$60,000. The municipal council is anxious to close negotiations for any one of these sites, based upon favorable action by the Congress of the United States. I trust, therefore, Mr. President, that you will lay this matter promptly before that body, with such recommendation as the weight of your official character and influence will necessarily impart, to the end that that which is within our grasp of so much benefit to our citizens may not be wholly lost to them.

The United States are called to high destinies. Through them the civilization of old Europe will enter upon a new phase by preparing the future and by uniting the qualities of the different nations of the world, but particularly of France, whose treasures we wish to borrow of art, literature, and science, in order to spread them among our best scholars.

MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder and Director-General of the  
American National Institute.*

HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Delegate and Secretary General of the  
American National Institute,  
Paris, 24 Avenue de Saxe.*

#### PETITION TO WILLIAM MCKINLEY, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

Miss Matilda Smedley, founder and director-general; Mrs. Walden-Pell, honorary president; Mrs. James Jackson, founder of the library; Henri von Daur, secretary-general of the American National Institute, have the honor to submit to you, Mr. President, the following petition supported by the Académie Française and members of the Institut de France, and other classes of distinguished organizations of the arts and literature of France, in support of the American National Institute, Prix de Paris, which are living testimonials of the good will and welcome of the French nation:

The institute, as it is planned, will be to the United States what the Prix de Rome has been and is to France.

Everyone interested in the progress of the future of our glorious nation's real welfare, and in the success of our talented students who come to Paris to perfect themselves in these respective branches of education, will acknowledge that the institute is the only solution of the difficulty that retards the arts of our country.

The American National Institute (Prix de Paris) will not only render us finished artists, but competent teachers, paving the way for a national standard.

But cultivating the highest degree of art education, under the best advantages in the French capital, a special study of the French language is absolutely necessary, and should begin at home to be perfected in the institute.

The establishment of the American National Institute will afford the most complete satisfaction to a noble and legitimate cause by developing more intimate relations between the two sister Republics, in social life as well as in literature and the arts.

The American National Institute (Prix de Paris) has received contributions from the first masters in France in painting, sculpture, objets d'art, literary works, etc. Musicians have been equally liberal in granting one continuous free scholarship. A letter of consideration has been secured to grant at the proper moment the privilege of public utility. Such sympathy and testimonials have never been given in such generous measure to a foreign institute in France, and on the basis of such generosity of gifts from the great Republic of France, we are confident that Mr. William McKinley, President of the United States, together with the proper authorities at Washington, will not fail to give the full consideration to our petition.



Signed in support thereof by—

M. M. F. BRUNETIÈRE, *de l'Académie Française, directeur de la Revue des deux mondes.*

G. BOISSIER, *secrétaire perpétuel de l'Académie Française.*

JOSÉ MARIA DE HEREDIA, *de l'Académie Française.*

THUREAU DANGIN, *historien, de l'Académie Française.*

ANDRÉ THEURIET, *auteur de romans, de l'Académie Française.*

HENRY HUSSAYE, *auteur, de l'Académie Française.*

JULES LEMAITRE, *publiciste, de l'Académie Française.*

LE DUC DE BROGLIE, *de l'Académie Française, ancien président du Conseil et de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

GREARD, *recteur de l'Université de Paris, de l'Académie Française.*

VICOMTE DE BORNIER, *poète, auteur de la "Fille de Rolland," de l'Académie Française.*

GEBHART, *professeur à l'Université de Paris, Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

COMTE D'HAUSBOVILLE, *historien, publiciste de l'Académie Française.*

MEZIÈRES, *professeur à l'Université de Paris, député, de l'Académie Française.*

PAUL BOURGET, *auteur, de l'Académie Française.*

ALBERT VANDAL, *historien, de l'Académie Française.*

GASTON PARIS, *philologue de l'Académie des suscriptions, administrateur du Collège de France, de l'Académie Française.*

EUGÈNE GUILLAUME, *sculpteur, de l'Académie des beaux-arts, de l'Académie Française, directeur de l'Académie de France à Rome.*

LUDOVIC HALÉVY, *auteur dramatique, de l'Académie Française.*

LAVISSE, *professeur à l'Université de Paris, de l'Académie Française.*

PAUL DESCHANEL, *de l'Académie Française, président de la Chambre des Députés.*

SULLY PRUDHOMME, *de l'Académie Française.*

GEORGE CLAIRIN, *artiste peintre.*

G. HANOTAUX, *de l'Académie Française, ancien Ministre des affaires étrangères.*

GEORGES PICOT, *secrétaire perpétuel de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

FRANÇOIS COPPÉE, *de l'Académie Française.*

JULES CAMBON, *ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the French Republic at Washington.*

EDMOND ROUSSE, *ancien bâtonnier de l'Ordre des avocats, de l'Académie Française.*

VICOMTE E. M. VOGUE, *de l'Académie Française.*

ALBERT SOREL, *historien, de l'Académie Française.*

COMTE DE MUN, *député, de l'Académie Française.*

LÉON BONNANT, *peintre, de l'Académie des beaux-arts.*

CAROLUS DURAN, *président de la Société nationale des beaux-arts.*

BARTHOLDI, *vice-président de la Société des artistes Français.*

BENJAMIN CONSTANT, *artiste peintre, de l'Académie des beaux-arts.*

CORMON, *artiste peintre, de l'Académie des beaux-arts.*

ED. CORROYER, *artiste peintre, de l'Académie des beaux-arts.*

GEROME, *artiste peintre, de l'Académie des beaux-arts.*

JULES BRETON, *artiste peintre, de l'Académie des beaux-arts.*

JULES CLARETIE, *de l'Académie Française.*

MARQUIS COSTA DE BEAUREGARD, *de l'Académie Française.*

WILLIAM BOUGUEREAU, *artiste peintre, membre de l'Institut.*

L. LEPINE, *préfet de police.*

AUG. RODIN, *sculpteur.*

EMILE CLAIRIN, *président de la IV. Commission du Conseil municipal de Paris.*

JOY V. CHELMINSKY, *artiste peintre.*

I. DE SELVES, *préfet de la Seine.*

LYON CAEN, *professeur à la Faculté de droit, de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

ROCQUAIN, *historien, de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

RAVAISONMOLLIN, *philosophe, de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

ADOLPHE GUILLON, *jurisconsulte, de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

LUCHAIRE, *historien, de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

ANATOLE LEROY-BEAULIEU, *publiciste, de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

AUCOC, *jurisconsulte, de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

D. PUECH, *sculpteur.*

L. PUECH, *député de Paris.*

Signed in support thereof by—

GEORGES LEYGUES, *ministre de l'instruction publique et des beaux-arts.*

HENRI ROUJON, *membre de l'Académie des beaux-arts, directeur des beaux-arts.*

E. SAGLIO, *directeur du Musée de Cluny, membre de l'Institut.*

DOCTEUR CH. RICHET, M. D., *professeur de la Faculté de médecine, membre de l'Institut.*

DOCTEUR ALBERT ROBIN.

J. BERNARDI, *directeur de l'Indépendance Belge.*

LÉON CLERY, *avocat à la Cour d'appel.*

FÉLIX HERBERT, *avocat à la Cour d'appel, maire du VI. arrondissement.*

LE DUC DE POMAR.

GEORGES OHNET, *auteur.*

JULIEN PIERNE, *compositeur.*

RENÉ LENORMAND, *compositeur.*

ÉMILE SOLDI COLBERT, *auteur de la Langue Sacrée.*

[Official translation.]

WASHINGTON, July 31, 1901.

Mr. DAUSSET,

*President of the Municipal Council of Paris.*

Mr. PRESIDENT: I beg most respectfully to deliver over the present letter to the promoters of the American National Institute, which is to be established here in Paris in order to create a center of artistical studies in behalf of American students, alike to the school of Rome and Athens for French young men.

The Paris town council have been pleased to show their sympathy toward said undertaking by the grant of a ground parcel for the buildings.

It would be indeed lucky and auspicious for the future. Said sympathy and encouragement would continue to be bestowed on the American National Institute, as there is no undertaking more proper to bring closer the friendly ties that bind us with the United States of America and develop beyond the Atlantic the artistical and moral influence of Paris and France.

I am, sir, with the highest regards,

Your most devoted and obedient servant,

JULES CAMBON, *French Ambassador.*

[Translation.]

PALAIS DU LOUVRE, March 13, 1899.

We can not too highly applaud Miss Smedley's generous conception.

It is with great pleasure that, after so many others, I wish the happiest future to the work of which she is the originator.

A. KAEMPFEN,

*Director of the National Museums and of the School of Louvre.*

To the signatures of my colleagues I add mine, with all my good wishes for the American National Institute. I will give either a drawing or study.

Tanusery, 1899.

CLAIRIN, *Artistic Painter.*

MADemoiselle SMEDLEY.

You have done me the honor to explain to me your plan of founding an establishment for American girls who come to Paris for the purpose of studying art. To insure its success the generous heart and the practical sense are required, and both my friends and myself are entirely at your disposal for anything which could help you in your work.

The Sixth Ward of Paris is too proud to possess on its territory the School of Arts and School des Arts Décoratifs to remain indifferent to the studies which you intend to favor. Will you allow me, then, in the name of Mr. Paul Colin, painter, chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, subdirector of the School des Arts Décoratifs, inspector, etc., and my former colleague, 2 Quai Malaquais, and in the name of Mr. Ferdinand Chaigneau, also painter and engraver, Cité des Fleurs, and both of whom highly approve of your idea, which I explained to them, as well as in my own, to thank you for having kindly associated us in your work.

Respectfully,

F. HERBERT, LL. D.,

*Lawyer at the Court of Appeals, Membre du Comité.*

PARIS, January 9, 1900.

To Mr. WILLIAM MCKINLEY,  
*President of the United States.*

YOUR EXCELLENCY: I have the honor to inform Your Excellency of the success which has crowned the effort to found and establish the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) on the same principles as the Academy of France at Rome and Athens.

We were encouraged by private assurance and the many friends at Washington familiar with the project that the request expressed in our petition addressed to Your Excellency would be granted in due time, and we therefore tried to overcome every obstacle which might interfere with the realization of our aspiration.

I am happy to say that we have solved a point of the highest importance, by the concession of ground from the municipal council of Paris upon which to erect the institute, thereby overcoming the difficulty of our Government acquiring real estate in a foreign country. This act on the part of France is quite unprecedented; no similar privilege has ever been granted a foreign nation. To obtain such favorable results from the representatives of the city of Paris is loyal testimony of good will, generosity, and friendship.

I am convinced that the gracious words in our President's message, of December 5, to Congress in relation to the American National Institute tended to strengthen and solidify these sentiments. It was in the most gracious and opportune manner that Your Excellency spoke of the establishment in Paris of the American National Institute as a commemoration of the part taken by the United States in the great enterprise of the World's Exposition of 1900, and we are most thankful for your kindness, and the crowning result will be the best proof of the effectiveness of this assurance.

The highest attributes and policy of a great nation are to be liberal and munificent, to be free with her awards, splendid in her establishments, and grand in her public works. Wherever the standard of culture in the fine arts is most highly elevated we receive the respect of the whole civilized world.

Another proof of the most eloquent nature is the multitude of signatures of the most distinguished men of France in the literary, artistic, and scientific world, to a resolution which Miss Smedley, the founder and director of the American National Institute, will have the honor to present personally to Your Excellency upon her early arrival in Washington.

A house has been rented in the most central location of Paris, 50 Avenue d'Iéna, Place des États-Unis, to be used for the preliminary and administrative work of the institute; also to receive and place gifts, such as statuary, books, pictures, and objects of art donated to the institute, as well as to receive students who have been provided with private scholarships.

It was planned to inaugurate this house January 1, 1900, but on account of the death of our respected honorary president, Mrs. Warden-Pell, the inauguration was postponed. Mrs. Walden-Pell's knowledge of the requirements of American students pursuing their studies abroad prompted her to become a friend and patron of the work. Last year she gave a scholarship of \$10,000 to the institute, to be known as the Walden-Pell Scholarship for Music, to be under the control of Miss Smedley. In recognition of this noble donation to the institute we recommended her to Mr. G. Leigues, the minister of public instruction, who thereupon decorated her as an "officier d'Académie."

The American National Institute is daily receiving gifts and assurances of support and protection from all directions. Mrs. James Jackson, a noble-minded American lady residing in Paris, has also given a scholarship of \$10,000, founded the library of the institute, and has recently donated a bust of Christ in marble by the American sculptor, Ezekiel, at Rome.

One of the recent literary publications of the learned Cardinal Rampolla has been sent to Miss Smedley by the cardinal himself, constituting a testimony of high appreciation from the Vatican.

During our travels in Italy last summer, where we studied the condition of schools and academies to acquire a knowledge which would assist us in directing American students of the institute at Paris, we visited the art centers of Rome and Venice and put ourselves in communication with the great masters and directors of art institutions, receiving everywhere an assurance of cordial collaboration in all works tending to advance the interest of American students.

While in Venice I had the honor to introduce Miss Smedley to Commendatore Barozzi, director of the Royal Museums, who gave her as a token of his acknowledgment of the work a most valuable collection of 27 heliogravures, reproductions of the frescoes by Paolo Veronese. These reproductions can not be obtained through commerce, and are a most valuable gift to the institute.

At Rome we have studied the academies and art establishments of other nations in this city; have had interviews with the respective directors; among others an interview with Dr. Guido Baccelli, minister of public instruction and director of archaeology, who expressed himself in the highest terms by saying that he wished it might have been the good fortune of Rome to possess such an institute instead of Paris.

We are proud of such testimonials, and the realization of this work will be the crowning monuments of a noble woman's life dream and seven long years of tireless effort.

When I first visited the United States in 1890 I recognized the great qualities and possibilities of that glorious country, and upon studying the Constitution and Declaration of Independence I was seized with a desire to become a citizen, and did not hesitate to make my first declaration in the spirit of the historical motto of America, "Unite or die." I was proud when the final day arrived and I received the document which made me an American citizen, and for the last three years I have devoted my experience and knowledge of Europe to further the development and extension of the fine arts in America, and joined with enthusiasm in Miss Smedley's great work of founding the American National Institute.

I have recognized the talent possessed by young American students, and what a great blessing it would be if they could possess in Europe an academy where they could reach the standard of art of the nations of the Old World. Paris is to-day the center of activity in art, but, as the famous explorer of Egypt, Champollion, once said, "Without Egypt, Greece could never have become a classical country in fine arts," and it was in the same spirit that France centuries ago founded an academy in Rome. It is her example we have followed, hoping to attain the same glorious results.

With the assurance of my highest respect, I have the honor to remain,

Your excellency's most obedient servant,

HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General, Paris.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 28, 1900.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY, *President of the United States:*

It will be recalled that in your message to Congress of December 5, 1899, you made use of the following language:

The United States Government building is approaching completion, and no effort will be spared to make it worthy, in beauty of architectural plan and in completeness of display, to represent our nation. It has been suggested that a permanent building of similar or appropriate design be erected on a convenient site, already given by the municipality, near the exposition grounds, to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American National Institute, for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study.

As you know, for years I have been deeply interested in a scheme known as the American National Institute (Prix de Paris). The aim of this institute is to procure for the young men and women of the United States advantage of finishing in France their education in literature and the sciences, as well as in the different branches of the arts; for example, painting, engraving, sculpture, architecture, music, and the drama. Scholarships (Prix de Paris) will also be created similar to the scholarships (Prix de Rome) which are awarded to French artists.

MATILDA SMEDLEY.

As showing more fully, if need be, the importance of this institute and the benefits to be derived therefrom by my countrymen and countrywomen, I append hereto certain papers to which I cordially invite your attention.

## INCLOSURES.

• The Prefect of Police of Paris to the Ambassador of the United States, December 16, 1896.

Extract from letter of Mr. Van Vechten Olcott, November 15, 1897.

Mr. Jules Cambon to Miss Smedley, December 2, 1898.

General Porter to the Prefect of the Seine, Paris, January 20, 1899.

Mr. Jules Cambon to the Prefect of the Seine, Paris, February 7, 1899.

Letters from Mr. A. Kaempfen, M. Clairin, Mr. Jules Cambon, Mr. Henry Houssaye, Mr. T. M. de Heredia, Mr. E. M. de Vogilie, Mr. E. Soldi Colbert, to Miss Smedley.

Mr. John D. Crimmins to President McKinley, May 2, 1899.

Mr. Laisney to Miss Smedley, October 23, 1899.

Mr. Richet to Miss Smedley, February 14, 1900.

From Cardinal Rampolla, October 24, 1899.

From Mr. Zonghi, October 27, 1899.

Mr. Henri von Daur to President McKinley, January 9, 1900.

Minutes of the meeting of the American National Institute, February 6, 1900.

Mr. Thomas Hastings to Miss Smedley, March 17, 1900.

Mr. Howard Russell Butler to Miss Smedley, March 19, 1900.

Miss Sarah E. Buckbee to Miss Smedley, March 20, 1900.

List of signers of petition to the United States Government.

Maps representing 14 sites to be selected from in the city of Paris.

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PARIS, December 2, 1898.

MADAME: You have been good enough to write to me, as has also Mr. von Daur, to ask me to become a member of the honorary council of the American National Institute.

I can not do otherwise than accept the honor you do me, and thank you, for the work you are striving to realize is worthy of every sympathy.

I beg you to receive, Madame, the assurance of my highest consideration.

JULES CAMBON,  
*Ambassador of France to the United States.*

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MISS SMEDLEY,

*Founder-Director of the American National Institute in Paris:*

Where is the Frenchman who would not offer all his good wishes for the foundation of the American National Institute, and who would not help toward the success of this noble work by which the sympathy between two great peoples will be increased?

HENRY HOUSAYE,  
*Of the French Academy.*

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With all the sympathy of—

T. M. DE HEREDIA,  
*Of the French Academy.*

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AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS, 18 AVENUE KLÉBER,  
*Paris, le 20 janvier 1899.*

Monsieur de SELVES,

*Préfet de la Seine, Paris.*

MONSIEUR LE PRÉFET: Mon prédécesseur, Mr. Eustis, avait pris sous son patronage l'American National Institute que plusieurs de mes nationaux, et un certain nombre des vôtres, veulent fonder à Paris pour faciliter l'étude des arts aux jeunes américains des deux sexes, qui, chaque année, viennent chercher en France un enseignement supérieur. Cet institut étant une œuvre d'initiative particulière, je n'ai pas à intervenir dans les démarches qui peuvent assurer sa fondation. Je vous demande, cependant, la permission de vous présenter Mademoiselle Smedley qui s'est consacrée à cette œuvre et qui désire vous entretenir à ce sujet.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Préfet, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

HORACE PORTER.

NEW YORK, March 17, 1900.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
24 Iowa Circle, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: My talk with you yesterday afternoon was most interesting and encouraging, and I can not but tell you how much I appreciate the good work you have done.

Referring to the question of how to obtain the best results in securing plans for your building, I would suggest that you employ some one, the best man you can think of in the profession, either here or in Paris, to form a written programme, giving the conditions of a competition; that is to say, specifying the number of drawings needed and the kind of drawings, also giving a programme of the plot and a full description of the building desired, and that when this programme has been written that you invite everybody to compete, and finally ask the jury of the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris to select from these drawings made in competition the best one for your building. This, I believe, would give the most satisfactory result.

Wishing you every further success in your enterprise, with kindest regards, believe me,

Very sincerely, yours,

THOMAS HASTINGS.

AMERICAN FINE ARTS SOCIETY,  
New York, March 19, 1900.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
No 24 Iowa Circle, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I heartily congratulate you upon the great success achieved in Paris in securing the land for the American (Prix de Paris) Institute. Of course I realize that the land is secured only on the condition that a fund for the building is forthcoming, either from private subscriptions or Government appropriation.

The proposed institute, if properly organized, will, in my opinion, be of great usefulness, not only in elevating the standard of art in this country but also in cementing the cordial relations of the two countries, and my personal cooperation will be gladly given on the condition which I emphasized in a former letter to you, namely, that the enterprise be so organized and safeguarded that the advantages shall accrue to the most deserving and talented students.

I am, very truly, yours,

HOWARD RUSSELL BUTLER.

PARIS, *February 21, 1893.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am much interested to know that you have undertaken to found an institute for the American students in music and art. I shall use all my influence to help you to carry out your projects.

My experience will serve to show that there does not exist such an institution for the American students, for I have known many who have had to struggle against difficulties, and obliged to return home without having accomplished the purpose for which they came, while others almost died for want of proper nourishment during the time of study, and not for the want of means, for many have to stop where the table is so poor that they do not get enough to eat.

The bureau of general information will be invaluable, as through it the students will be well directed and have protection from fraud and loss of time. Also the language course of lecture will place the student under the course of best literature and culture of the day.

Knowing, from what I hear, that you are entirely qualified for this work, I would recommend parents to place their daughters with perfect confidence. The place of the institution is unique in itself.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. WALDEN-PELL.

GAUVIX, COURTONNE LA MURDRAC, PAR LISIEUX,  
October 23, 1899.

DEAR MADAME: It was with great pleasure I read in the *Figaro* three weeks ago that the work to which you have so long devoted yourself was soon to be inaugurated and organized in Paris.

Your American National Institute will therefore soon be able to receive your young compatriots coming over to perfect their studies in the arts taught in Paris.

I am rejoiced first of all on your account, for you are greatly deserving of the esteem and assistance both of your own country and of ours. The day you are able to inaugurate your good establishment you will have the very great satisfaction of seeing your work definitely achieved and will receive all the thanks due to you.

I shall not be one of the last to congratulate you. If I can for my part help you in your institute, will you allow me to give you the name of one of my friends, Mr. René Lenormand, a well-known composer? His compositions are, I believe, much liked in America, and I know he has many pupils and admirers among the American families in Paris. He could, if your programme allow of it, direct a class of music in your institute, and I am sure his teaching would be very quickly appreciated.

I am writing to Mr. René Lenormand to call on you, and you could tell him if you could utilize his talent in the interest of your young compatriots. If you can do so, I shall congratulate myself on having made you make Mr. Lenormand's acquaintance.

In any case all my good wishes accompany you, and no one more than myself will applaud your legitimate success.

Accept, dear madam, the assurance of my most distinguished sentiments.

LAISNEY.

I gave up a year ago my duties of solicitor in Paris to become president of the tribunal at Lisieux.

[Translation.]

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AND FINE ARTS,  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR,  
*Palais Royal, Paris, January 17, 1900.*

The honorable SECRETARY-GENERAL:

In response to the very kind letter with which you have favored me I have the honor to assure you that I am very happy to express my appreciation of the thought which has suggested the establishment of the "American National Institute" in Paris, and I deeply feel the compliment thus paid to our country and its capital in making this choice.

My administration will be happy to second the purposes of the city of Paris favoring this project by furnishing to the representatives of your society all information at our disposal regarding instruction in fine arts, and the methods and regulations which prevail in France for the organization of the Beaux Arts.

I beg you to accept, Mr. Secretary-General, the assurance of my highest consideration.

H. MARCELE, *the Director of Beaux Arts.*

MR. VON DAUR,

*Secretary-General of the American National Institute, 24 Avenue de Saxe.*

PARIS, le 26 avril 1900.

MONSIEUR VON DAUR,

*Secrétaire général de l'Institut national américain, Paris.*

MONSIEUR ET CHER CONFRÈRE: Je vous adresse en hâte ces lignes pour vous rassurer. Si le Président de la République a refusé d'assister à la séance d'inauguration de demain soir et de s'y faire représenter, c'est que le ministre des affaires étrangères est absent; il est de règle, en effet, qu'il n'assiste à aucune solennité d'un caractère officiel sans la présence du ministre que la solennité concerne spécialement. En outre, il n'assiste jamais à des réunions privées (il y en aurait trop), mais la réunion de demain n'est pas considérée comme privée, elle est officielle. Telles sont les explications que m'a données très gracieusement le général secrétaire de la présidence. Il a approuvé entièrement la phrase de mon allocution relative aux dispositions bienveillantes du Président de la République, attendu que les dispositions sont, en réalité, des plus favorables.

Veuillez, monsieur et cher confrère, présenter mes respectueux hommages à Miss Smedley et mes sentiments tout affectueux et dévoués.

SULLY PRUDHOMME.



COMÉDIE FRANÇAISE,  
ADMINISTRATEUR GÉNÉRAL,  
8 décembre 1900.

MONSIEUR HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secrétaire général de l'American National Institute.*

MONSIEUR LE SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL: Je serai très heureux et je suis très honoré de faire partie du comité de patronage de l'art dramatique dans votre admirable American National Institute. Vous pouvez donc, monsieur, disposer de moi. Mais présentement je suis tellement soumis à l'imprévu, et cela jusqu'à la réouverture de la Comédie, que je n'ose en toute sincérité donner un rendez-vous ferme, redoutant d'être malgré moi obligé d'y manquer. J'appartiens au téléphone. Je suis cependant au théâtre de la place du Châtelet dans l'après-midi, mais encore une fois je n'ose vous donner un jour précis, et je serais désolé de vous faire perdre un temps précieux.

Croyez, monsieur, je vous prie à mes sentiments très distingués et absolument dévoués.

JULES CLARETIE.

PARIS, le 26 mai 1900.

MONSIEUR H. VON DAUR,  
*Secrétaire Général de l'American National Institute, Paris.*

MONSIEUR: Comme vous savez, je prends un vif intérêt à toutes les questions américaines et surtout à toutes celles qui contribuent à unir la France et les Etats-Unis dans des pensées communes.

Veillez donc assurer, Miss Smedley, que j'accepte volontiers de faire partie de la commission des concours et du jury qui sera appelé à apprécier les compétiteurs du Prix de Paris.

Je m'associe avec plaisir, dans la mesure où cela me sera possible, à la réalisation de sa noble entreprise.

Veillez agréer, monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

BARTHOLDI,  
*Vice-Président de la Société des Artistes Français.*

AMBASSADE DES ÉTATS-UNIS,  
Paris, le 18 Décembre 1903.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: It is with much pleasure that I have read the new documents which you have sent me relative to the American National Institute (Prix de Paris), and I congratulate you as well as the members of the board of trustees on having conducted this matter to the point where its success is assured. Those who, like myself, desire to see their compatriots profit more extensively by the artistic, literary, and scientific culture which can only be found in France, will be deeply grateful to you.

In the United States, as you know, there is one general voice of approval and encouragement for your enterprise.

The letter of Senator Frye, President of the Senate; that of Mr. Hay, the Secretary of State; that of Mr. Ade, the under Secretary of State, as well as the flattering note which President Roosevelt wrote in your golden book, all testify to this fact.

It is now the duty of our French friends to show that they take the same interest that we do in the success of this institution. Now is the time for this. Tell them before your leave, and say to Mr. von Daur, the zealous and disinterested secretary of the institute, that he must repeat it to them during your absence, which I hope will be a short one. My best wishes accompany you.

I beg you to believe, dear Miss Smedley, in the sincerity of your devoted servant,

HENRY VIGNAUD,  
*First Secretary of the United States Embassy at Paris.*

Mlle. MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Fondatrice et Directrice de  
l'American National Institute, Paris.*

AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS, Paris.

These lines will introduce to you Dr. B. F. Campbell, who desires information which I am sure you will take pleasure in giving him.

Truly, yours,

HENRY VIGNAUD,  
*First Secretary.*

MISS SMEDLEY,  
*Founder and Director-General, American National Institute.*

AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS,  
18 Avenue Kleber, Paris, August 30, 1901.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I inclose herewith a letter from Mrs. George H. Kendall, asking for certain information, which I trust you will kindly furnish her. No one can do so better than you.

Very respectfully,

HENRY VIGNAUD, *First Secretary.*

AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS,  
Paris, September 30, 1901.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I inclose herewith a letter from Mr. G. H. Glysbeck, of Cincinnati, Ohio, who desires information, which I trust you will be able to furnish.

HENRY VIGNAUD, *First Secretary.*

AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS, Paris.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I give these few lines to Mrs. Oats and her son, who are highly recommended to this embassy. I have no doubt you will take pleasure in advising them, and I am sure you can do that much better than I.

Respectfully,

HENRY VIGNAUD.

SECRÉTAIRE-GÉNÉRAL  
DE L'INSTITUT NATIONAL AMÉRICAIN,  
Paris, le 4 Janvier 1904.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am very happy to tell you that I have shown the letter of Mr. H. Vignaud, first secretary of our embassy, to Mr. Deville, the president of the municipal council of Paris, and the same afternoon I had an appointment with the reporter, Mr. Lambelin, at the Hotel de Ville. He also was very pleased and perfectly satisfied \* \* \* this time. This, he said, will now convince everybody in the council, and he does not doubt in the least for a satisfactory issue when the matter will be voted, and, more so, he has promised me that we shall have, through his endeavor, the ground at the Champs de Mars.

I have also visited the maire of our arrondissement (the 7th), which means also Champs de Mars, and we are sure of his cooperation, as he is delighted with our project and particularly to be in his arrondissement. He promised me to use all his influence. He gave me a full hour interview.

So there is nothing else to be done here for the moment. It remains for you to get everything settled on that basis in Washington, as you may also depend upon an immediate information of the decision of the municipal council regarding location.

With best wishes for a perfect success, I remain, yours, devotedly,

H. VON DAUB, *Secretary-General.*

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder and Director-General of the  
American National Institute.*

ROME, October 24, 1899.

Promovere l'incremento delle arti belle è opera che attamente onora gli iniziatori e merita lode ed incoraggiamento; poichè lo studio delle belle arti innalza gli animi a Dio, sommo esemplare de ogni bellezza incivilisce i popoli e forma i più nobile ornamento delle grandi nazioni.

M. CARDINAL RAMPOLLA.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder-General of the American National Institute:*

I am happy to indorse this great work, and trust Venice may contribute to its progress.

Comendatore NICOLA BAROZZI,  
*Director of the Royal Museum of Archaeology at Venice.*

NOVEMBER 7, 1899.

My mother, Lady Caithness, Duchess de Pomar, having taken a deep interest in the American National Institute, and having understood this great undertaking and its founder, Matilda Smedley, from her first arrival in Paris, and her work from the beginning, I am pleased to state that I will always take the greatest interest in the progress of the work.

POMAR.

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I strongly recommend the efforts of Miss Smedley in behalf of this institution.

J. B. EVERTS,  
United States Ambassador, Paris, France.

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124 WAGRAM AVENUE,  
Hollywood, Paris, October 10, 1895.

What grand success you are having, dearest friend. I am greatly in hopes we shall really have you with us with a beautiful home of your own before long. But let me say something, and that is do not wait till a house is built, but with a furnished one in the meantime begin as soon as possible.

I know several charming girls who are in despair. They do not know where to go or what to do, and are living miserably. I hope your institute will soon be opened and that English girls will be admitted. One of these I mention is cousin to Lord Wolseley.

LADY CAITHNESS (Duchess de Pomar).

25 OCTOBRE, 1896.

CHÈRE MADemoiselle: J'ai bien du regret d'être si loin et de ne pouvoir vous rendre visite.

Oui, certes, j'accepte d'être membre honoraire de votre utile entreprise, non seulement parce qu'elle est bonne et belle, mais enfin en souvenir de notre chère et vaillante amie Emilie de Morsier que vous n'avez pas retrouvée, hélas! lorsque vous êtes revenue en France.

Je vous fais envoyer aussi, comme vous en avez témoigné le désir, quelques exemplaires de la Revue scientifique.

Croyez-moi, je vous prie, votre très respectueux admirateur et serviteur.

CHARLES RICHEL,  
Prof. Fac. Méd., Membre du Comité.

Château de Casqueiranne, Hyères.

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Cette institution me paraît être du plus grand intérêt et elle a toutes mes sympathies.

BARON ALPHONSE DE ROTHSCHILD, C.

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I know, dear Miss Smedley, that since you began to work for the realization of this dream of yours and of Mrs. Walden-Pell's you have certainly put in practice the motto which our dear friend, the Duchess of Pomar, has made her own, "Commit thy work to God," and in this same faith I will do all I can to help you.

EMILIE DE MORSIER,  
Organizer and Secretary-General of the Congress of Women's Work,  
held at Paris, 1889, under the patronage of the French Government.

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L'amie de ma vraie amie Emilie de Morsier, au nom de ma chère patrie, je suis bien heureuse de cette grande idée—le prix de Paris faisant le pendant du prix de Rome. La France unie à l'Amérique par la science et le cœur.

ISABELLE BOGELOT,  
Directrice des libérées de Saint-Lazare, Chevalier de la  
Légion d'honneur, Membre honoraire du Comité.

PORTLAND, ME., May 16, 1902.

MY DEAR SENATOR: You are aware that our people will not patronize nor fairly appreciate the talent, skill, or abilities of our American-born young artists unless they have "studied in Paris." Hence many of our gifted students, conscious of talent and measurably proficient in their art, seem forced to go to Paris. For such persons, when not financially able to secure fitting conditions of living, the existing conditions for such "artist life" in Paris are far from such as you would wish to have our students subjected to. Indeed, I shall have to say they are demoralizing and perilous. You will readily understand.

Miss Smedley, filled with sympathy for these young people, has succeeded in enlisting to a very remarkable degree many of the best men and women in France in her efforts to establish an institute for the especial care and protection and encouragement of American students of talent and worth. The municipality of Paris has recognized this in the most gracious way. Now, the cooperation of our Government seems reasonable and proper. In whatever way and degree this can be manifested you know better than I, but I trust something may be found practicable.

With best regards,

JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN,

*Ex-Governor of Maine, Ex-President Bowdoin College.*

HON. WILLIAM P. FRYE,  
*United States Senate.*

BRUNSWICK, ME.

MY DEAR SIR: I am glad to learn that you have expressed some interest in the object proposed by the American National Institute, Paris, France. I need not recite them. Feeling that inasmuch as our people demand that students of the arts and sciences must have some study and practice under the best masters in Paris before they can be recognized as worthy of consideration and patronage, I have for some time taken interest in this effort to provide a place in Paris where our young people whose gifts warrant the ambition to excel in work of this kind may receive protected direction and encouragement while exposed to so many unfavorable influences.

This American National Institute was projected to afford such care and aid. Its objects and its inauguration have impressed the high officials of Paris and very many of the most famous masters there to such a degree as to bring out a remarkable interest, amounting to practical assistance and cooperation.

It seems that we in our country ought to meet this generous action of the people of France. Miss Smedley has done a great work, and is held in honor on account of it as well as for her personal high qualities of character.

It is now proposed to ask our Government to recognize this work by suitable encouragement, as it has certain relations of public and national interest which make such action proper.

I trust that Miss Smedley's efforts to secure an appropriation in aid of this institute may be successful.

I have the honor to be, with my high regards,

Very truly, yours,

JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN.  
THOMAS W. CRIDLER.

THE HON. WILLIAM B. ALLISON,  
*United States Senate.*

That this matter is not without interest from public men of America, I may say that I sought the advice of the present Secretary of State, the Hon. John Hay, who, in a letter addressed to Mrs. Walden Pell, honorary president, of January 27, 1889, said:

Whether it be proposed to make the National Institute an accessory feature of the representation of the United States at the Paris Exposition of 1900, or whether it be proposed to incorporate the institute under national auspices, much in the same way as the Corcoran Art Gallery in this city was incorporated, if the latter were done I am inclined to think that the former would naturally follow, the advantages to be gained from associating the enterprise with the national representation of this country at the Paris Exposition being obviously conducive to its most practical organization on a basis promising permanent and large usefulness.

Again, the Hon. Cushman K. Davis, a distinguished member of the Congress of the United States and present chairman of the Committee

on Foreign Relations of the Senate, said, in a letter dated February 8, 1899:

The President, as he has promised to do, brought the matter of the Institute building to the attention of Mr. Peck, and, as I understand, warmly commended it.

My own opinion is that the question now resolves itself into a plain business proposition, based upon one fact, and that fact is, Has the French Government made a concession for a site or will it make one? If it has made or does make such a concession, I see no reason why the structure can not be erected as desired. If it has not, of course the scheme for aid by the United States funds dedicated to the exposition building will fail. I put this matter very plainly that it may be distinctly understood by those who are more directly interested in the subject.

The Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, a Senator of the United States from the State of New York, in a recent communication to me, says:

I cordially concur in the views and suggestions of Senator Davis.

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EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
Washington, August 24, 1898.

Miss MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Van Dyck Studios, Eighth Avenue and Fifty-sixth Street, New York, N. Y.*

DEAR MADAM: I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 20th instant, the contents of which have been noted, and to inform you that the matter to which you refer will, in accordance with the instructions of the President, be brought to the attention of Commissioner-General Peck.

Very truly, yours,

J. A. PORTER,  
*Secretary to the President.*

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, August 24, 1898.

Miss MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Eighth Avenue and Fifty-sixth Street, New York City, N. Y.*

DEAR MADAM: I have to acknowledge, by direction of the Secretary of State, the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, in regard to the proposed American National Institute in Paris in connection with the participation of the Government of the United States in the Paris Exposition of 1900.

In reply I have to inform you that your letter has been referred to Mr. Ferdinand W. Peck, Commissioner-General of the United States to that exposition.

Faithfully, yours,

THOS. H. CRIDLER,  
*Third Assistant Secretary.*

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203 BOULEVARD RASPAIL,  
Paris, France, March 10, 1900.

Miss MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder and Director-General of the  
American National Institute (Prix de Paris).*

DEAR MADAM: I wish to thank you and Mr. Henry von Daur, the secretary-general of the American National Institute, for the assistance which you rendered me in getting permission to enter the Ecole Normal. I am now able to begin the study of the French system of manual training, for I received permission to-day to enter at any time. As I wrote you, when asking for your assistance, I have been since last November trying to get this permission, which you succeeded in getting for me in such a short time. This experience has cost me a good deal of time and money and has shown me how useful and expedient the American National Institute is. The high consideration which it receives from the French authorities makes it an easy matter for students coming here to study to obtain what they wish by applying through the institute.

I have many reasons to be thankful to you as the founder of the institute and Mr. von Daur, the secretary.

Very truly, yours,

L. L. SUMMERS.

PRIX DE PARIS.

Vous avez fondé pour les ans,  
Pour la gloire et l'aube éthérée,  
Votre œuvre construit en durée;  
Vous l'avez faite pour le Temps.

Vous saviez—pour qu'un peuple immense—  
Comprenne à jamais son essor,  
Qu'il faut élargir l'espérance,  
Qu'il faut animer son trésor.

Vous saviez que—pour que les jours  
N'affaiblissent pas nos mémoires—  
Les plus brillantes de nos gloires,  
Partent de l'art y vont toujours!

Vaste espoir, élan fraternel!  
Comme un constructeur de lumière,  
Vous venez planter votre pierre  
Au temple de l'art éternel.

Pour qu'un jour, dans nos fins sublimes,  
De fleurs recouvrant nos tombeaux,  
Le soleil dore d'autres cimes,  
Et germent de nouveaux flambeaux.

MAURICE SAINT-CHAMARAND,  
*Paris, 24 novembre 1903.*

A Miss MATILDE SMEDLEY,  
*Sur la fondation de l'Institut national américain.*

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Je suis heureux de pouvoir me joindre à mes collègues et j'approuve cette idée, inspirée par les plus nobles sentiments. Au moment venu je donnerai une petite esquisse.

J.-P. LAURENS,  
*Membre de l'Institut, O.*

34 WEST NINETY-FIRST STREET,  
*New York, March 20, 1900.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have just read another article in favor of the American National Institute. I must write you a little of what I feel in regard to the noble work you have done. It is overwhelming.

I have also for years been doing a great educational work, and feel very proud of it, in that I have not only benefited the thousands of pupils that have passed from under my hand, but through them the uplifting influence has reached their homes.

I have been greatly interested in the institute because I have traveled abroad a great deal and have friends among struggling geniuses of our land, and therefore know and realize their great needs, and what a boon such an establishment will be to them; and I can scarcely realize now that the great undertaking is to become an accomplished fact, as I am sure it must be, for America will never permit France to excel her in generosity and courtesy to her struggling talent.

The patience with which it has been brought out, the strength of its foundation, the securing of it as a public utility, which exempts it from taxes, the concession of the land, is all simply enormous, leaving the nation nothing to do but to erect the building and create scholarships.

The social interest you have thrown into this, as well as literature, science, and art, which opens the field on such a grand scale to bring our students in touch with the best the world has to give under such grand conditions, all you may well be proud of.

I read in our President's message his suggestions in regard to the American National Institute. I felt proud of the head of our nation, that in the midst of the overwhelming duties surrounding him he had not failed to see the importance of the great work, and I believe it will be the crowning glory of his administration and will make his name immortal—the establishment of the American National Institute, the Prix de Paris, in the beautiful city of Paris.

Very sincerely,

SARAH E. BUCKBER.

7 EAST SEVENTY-SECOND STREET,  
New York, November, 1895.

This will introduce Miss Smedley, who is the original promoter of the Paris Institute for American lady students.

The object of the institute must appeal to the American public, and from personal experience in Paris with young American lady students, I can not speak too strongly in its behalf for the moral protection it offers young girls alone in a foreign city.

MARY R. CALLENDER.

[Translation.]

15 RUE DE L'UNIVERSITÉ.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am anxious to tell you how glad I am at the success of your noble undertaking. You have had an idea which at first sight appears very simple, it is so just, but which on reflection can not be so simple, since no one thought of it before you—that is, to bring together French and American artists by a more reciprocal and profound knowledge of each other. It is not for me to praise the artistic genius of my fellow-countrymen, nor to boast of the beauties of my dear native city of Paris. But it seems to me that a very happy initiation is possible through a school such as you have planned—a school both Parisian and American. The young Americans coming to it will find there a part of what they love in their native country; they will not feel away from home, isolated, since they will find a temporary home and make one of a large family; but, on the other hand, they will be in Paris, and at each step they take they will have before their eyes the great artistic remains of the past, from the admirable Gothic of Notre Dame de Paris down to our modern constructions, less æsthetic, assuredly, but still most interesting.

One of the great cares of my life has always been to try and do away with the prejudices and errors which are propagated from nation to nation because they do not understand each other. Men must see each other, speak together, in order to be finally persuaded that they all belong to one and the same great human family, and that the legends spread abroad by the newspapers concerning the corruption of the French and the barbarities of the Americans are very false ones. Living in Paris as students, not as spoiled millionaires, your young American pupils will taste the charm of the true Parisian population, which the rich travelers, leading a luxurious life in the big fashionable hotels, can neither know nor appreciate, and they will appreciate the serious qualities that the Parisian hides under his frivolous and skeptical exterior.

We, in our turn, shall profit by the spirit of initiative of energy and by the sentiment of great moral responsibility which do honor to your country people.

Take notice that I do not speak here of education, but of breeding, which, perhaps, is of more value. It is never too late to finish our education, and young men and women can still perfect themselves in the art of good manners. As to instruction, it is evident that it can be pushed very far. No city more than Paris is intellectual. The lessons, classes, conferences, are as numerous here as the museums, the salons of exhibition and of painting; they are widely open, and I tremble at the idea that one can be tempted to follow merely the half of the classes held at the College of France, at the Sorbonne, at the Museum of the Louvre, at the Conservatoire, at the Museum, and elsewhere. There would be enough to occupy ten days in one day, and one would become too learned.

Your young people, when by their talent they have merited, after competition, to be admitted into the American National Institute, will not have all these classes to follow; it will be sufficient for them to choose one or two, so as to profit by them. Lastly, they will find in the American National Institute many precious resources—books, art gallery, and what is still more precious, they will be able to study alone, to commune with themselves; for after the agitation of the day nothing is of more value than the study and reflection that solitude brings.

As there is for young Frenchmen a school at Athens and at Rome, so the American youth will have the school at Paris; and I am sure that this school, under the direction of wise and enlightened masters, will rapidly prosper. Truly, yes, I believe that in a few years it will be a title of honor to have been a pupil of the school of Paris.

This is what the municipal council of Paris and the American Government have so well understood. They have created, thanks to you and your undaunted courage, an institution which will live and cement, if needs be, the union of two great republics, in love with the ideal, with fraternity, and with the love of the beautiful and the true.

Believe me, dear Miss Smedley, yours, very respectfully,

CHARLES RICHTER,  
Faculty of Medicine, Member of the Academy.

PARIS, February 14, 1900.

S. Doc. 167, 58-3—5



BRUNSWICK, ME., *February, 1902.*

HON. CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW, U. S. Senator,  
*Washington, D. C.:*

I have watched with great interest the progress of Miss Smedley's efforts to secure the permanent establishment of the American National Institute in Paris. Having been with you associated with the movers of this work from its beginning in New York, I am prompted to write you at this time, which seems to be a critical one, to express my continued interest and satisfaction in recognizing the truly remarkable results thus far accomplished.

Our friends in France, and in particular in Paris, have shown more practical interest in the success of this institute than our own people, for whose honor and advantage it was contemplated. The need of such an institution was never greater than now.

There is a general demand that our young people studying the arts should prosecute some portion of their studies in Paris.

Many of our most gifted students in the arts and sciences are without proper means of securing respect and protection in taking up life in Paris.

I understand that a bill is soon to come before the Senate appropriating a sufficient sum to erect a building on the ground already secured by the kind recognition of the municipal council of Paris.

I trust in your acting as sponsor. You will have the cordial appreciation and support of many people of the highest standing.

With highest regards,

JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN.

40 EAST SIXTY-EIGHTH STREET,  
*May 1, 1902.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Though I sail for Europe to-day, I am not forgetting your matter. If you need my subscription right away, if you will address a line to my secretary, Mr. M. D. Barry, 1033 Third avenue, he will forward it to you.

Sincerely, yours,

JOHN D. CRIMMINS.

BALTIMORE, MD., *July 10, 1899.*

I beg leave to inform Miss Smedley that every undertaking which contributes to the advantage of mankind and scientific improvement of an American student meets with my cordial support, and I hope that the work in which she is engaged will attain the success it deserves.

J. (Cardinal) GIBBONS.

NEW YORK, *January 1, 1904.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Your explanation of your plans for the American Institute in Paris interested me so much that I want now, while wishing you a happy New Year, to express my hope that your excellent work will be carried to a speedy and successful conclusion.

My own experience among American residents abroad and my work as a student in several universities have brought me in contact with many who would have been immeasurably benefited by such an institution as the one whose cause you champion, and I know many others whose efforts have been misdirected and often sadly wasted for the lack of such help as it would seem but just that our Government should provide.

The success of your undertaking, it seems to me, will not only be productive of the best results among American students in Europe, but should also have a reflectively stimulating effect upon the work of our students at home. Wherefore it seems to me that the higher the development that our educational systems at home attain the more shall we stand in need of just such institutions as yours abroad.

You have my heartiest good wishes for all the good fortune that your admirable plan deserves.

Yours, very sincerely,

NORTON PERKINS.

## EDITORS THE MUSICAL COURIER:

Through your valuable paper of July 7 I have been able to secure the circular of the American National Institute, "Prix de Paris;" further I am pleased to note there is a musical paper that is fully alive to the great necessity of such a work.

Your most valuable articles from Paris, written by Fannie Edgar Thomas, have been leading up to this work, and now there is a possibility of realizing in the near future results which will forever settle the question: Should, can, and will the American girls go abroad to study?

Contemplating the amount of work accomplished by Miss Smedley and the noble patron, Mrs. Walden Pell, as shown forth in the circular, no matter what nation he belongs to or what religion he professes, he must bow in profound admiration before the woman who has had such an ideal, such a heart, and has known how to group around her such noble influences and to unite so many forces, as represented in the circular, of the most illustrious intellects of the world of art and letters.

Is it needful to say that Miss Smedley has been guided by divine inspiration from the very start of this gigantic enterprise, which always secures success? And I trust since The Musical Courier has been doing much good on these lines it will publish from week to week some of the letters contained in the circular.

Many are the girls possessed of rare gifts and artistic ability who, through this institution, may become a Nordica, or Eames, or Elizabeth Gardner, while those of lesser talent will realize their inability when they make application to enter the institute and find they can not be admitted. The strongest point and the groundwork of said institute is to prevent so many going abroad and failing in their efforts.

As set forth in the circular and the letter published by The Musical Courier of the 7th instant from the prefect of police of the city of Paris, the Government of France has great faith in the future of the American National Institute. The help and gifts given by the great masters of France show conclusively that the time has come for such an institution. The gifts of France's great masters, if sold, would bring money enough to build the institution. Shall this be done or will the American people come forward with the money to build the American National Institute to help these girls and secure to the American student the influence of culture and art? The lectures to be given to the institute is an education in itself, while the reduction of masters for lessons to be given to the student of the institute reduces the present expenses of a student in Paris to one-half.

X. X.

JULY 12, 1897.

56 RUE LA BRUYÈRE,  
Paris, March 9, 1901.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Many thanks for the list of names you were so kind to send me.

I am glad to hear the students enjoy the concerts, and you will find some more invitations inclosed.

Yours, very sincerely,

R. STRAKOSCH.

MISS SMEDLEY: I, the undersigned, Ernest Dubois, chevalier of the Legion of Honor, medal of honor at the Salon, member of the jury de l'Ecole National des Beaux Arts and of the jury of sculpture for the prize of Paris, American National Institute, attest that Mr. Henry Schonhardt, of Providence, R. I., United States of America, who obtained the prize for sculpture at the School of Design of Rhode Island, presented himself to me, and after having given proof of his real talent and remarkable aptitude, as well as serious hard-working qualities, I consented to give him lessons in sculpture in my studio gratuitously; but in view of the fact that his resources are extremely limited, I find myself constrained to write to you in his favor, and, if possible, for you to admit him to lodge at the American National Institute, and to use your influence with the governor of his State (Rhode Island) to obtain a scholarship for Mr. Schonhardt, thereby making it possible for him to finish his studies, which have been begun so very auspiciously in Paris. It would not only be an encouragement to him, but indispensable and necessary for the continuing of his lessons which I am giving and will continue to give Mr. Schonhardt without any remuneration whatever.

With highest consideration, believe me, dear Miss Smedley,

Yours, most truly,

ERNEST DUBOIS,  
15 Rue Monave, Paris.

MISS SMEDLEY,

Founder and Director-General of the American National Institute, Paris, France.

AMERICAN ART ASSOCIATION OF PARIS,

October 11, 1902.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Fortunately I was one of the many American students that spent an enjoyable evening last Saturday. I am taking a regular painters' course at the Julian Academie in preparation for book illustration. Am heartily in accord with your good undertaking and desire to do all I can to advance it.

Yours, respectfully,

E. EARLE HOGEBOOM.

ON BOARD STEAMSHIP PATRICIA,

November 18, 1903.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: On leaving Paris I wish to thank you again for your great kindness and the many advantages you were instrumental in surrounding me with. So many girls go to Paris without any kind of knowledge of the language, where or how to secure the advantages they are seeking, lose valuable time and money, and too often return home without accomplishing anything of note. The American National Institute will be the means of saving time, money, and strength, and redound to the glory of our country.

Yours, most respectfully,

MARY WILSON.

[Arthur Teed, Carrie B. French, A. L. Hockinghull, C. L. Weed, L. S. Kiefer, Henrietta Iana Monod, Henri Monod, Mary S. Healey, Helen Stanley, Aletea d'Avenus Salvador, Geogianni Weldon, Augusta Glose, Lende W. Glose, Caroline A. Sower, Collin Armstrong, Countess Batoska, Hellen A. Peabody, William C. Oats, Adeline F. Howley, M. A. Johnstone, Louis Cryramy, Martha E. Herrick, Mrs. George Smith, Mrs. Cheque Harrison, Mr. Andress, director; Mr. C. Powell, manager; L. H. Kauffman, Charles Pearson Shaw, Isabela King.]

ST. PAUL, *August 5, 1903.*

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY: I beg leave to express the hope that you are meeting with success in your work for the establishment in Paris of an "American National Institute." The building up of this "institute" I consider to be a work most worthy of the patronage of intelligent Americans and of the active cooperation of our National Government.

Students of art will continue in large numbers to go to Paris, where such wondrous facilities are offered, to obtain the information and training to which they aspire. Left to themselves they are scattered through the French metropolis without friends to guide or direct them; your institution would be a center to which students could go and where counsel would be given to them.

It is to the great advantage of America that American youths devote themselves to art and to be duly prepared to excel in it. America has come to that stage that it can not afford to be behind European nations in advanced culture. Our National Government should in one way or another take this matter into its hands, and I earnestly hope that the recognition which you seek from it for your work will be accorded to it at an early date.

Knowing as I do Paris, and knowing as I do the condition of American students in that city, I feel the deepest interest in your work.

Respectfully,

JOHN IRELAND,  
*Archbishop of St. Paul, Minn.*

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC,  
*Boston, Mass., December 17, 1902.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: We feel deeply interested in the American National Institute in Paris, France, of which you are the founder and director-general. We are sure you have already accomplished a grand and noble work among the American students in that city, and we most sincerely hope that Congress will recognize this, and the necessity of assuring its permanency, by granting a liberal sum of money for the erection of a fine building, with an endowment fund for many scholarships.

Wishing you all success, we remain,

Yours, very truly,

G. H. CHADWICK,  
*Musical Director.*

CHARLES P. GARDINER,  
*President of the Board of Trustees.*

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Director-General American National Institute.*

PARIS, 157 RUE DE LA POMPE,  
*January 1, 1902.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I can not let you leave for that dear country we both call "home," especially when I consider the mission on which you are bent, without sending you my "godspeed."

May God not only speed you on your journey by land and by sea, but may He above all things speed you in your efforts to bring home with convincing force to the Government of our great land the realization of the pressing need of their hearty and ungrudging support for the great enterprise which your untiring energies of mind and body, inspired by that greatest of all ideals—a love of country—have finally, after eight long years of effort, brought into being. The American nation needs the American National Institute. It needs it badly and it needs it now. It needs it for many reasons, but there is in my opinion one great, one supreme reason, why it needs it, and that is that only by and through such an institution as the American National Institute can our country in the broad sense retain as true Americans the thousands of our young people of both sexes who annually flock to the Old World for inspiration and instruction in the professions of their choice.

Our advancement in our own country in all the arts moves on with marvelous rapidity, but we must still look to Europe, in the general sense at least, for the best methods of instruction in the arts. The genius of our land in all branches of art, as in everything, is vigorous, unquenchable, and overflowing. It must choose its own outlets and it must have its own way. No purely private enterprise at home or abroad, no matter how well its aims, can suffice for it. It is a part—a vital part—of the life of our people, and its needs can only be adequately dealt with by the father of our people.

Let our Government but give give its support to the American National Institute, and by that only does it become possible for thousands of enthusiastic and aspiring young American souls to be placed in immediate and direct contact with the great masters of art, science, and literature in the Old World; but these selfsame young countrymen and women of ours will also at the same time be afforded that moral support and protection which they most urgently need while far from home and friends, and which it is the duty of those who care to give them, while the spirit of patriotism which will also be inculcated in a national institute such as yours is designed to be while the needs of the individual are being supplied are incalculable, for what could forge so strongly a link between our young students in a foreign land and their own dear country as an American National Institute, representing, as it would, in the great city of our sister Republic the power, dignity, and beneficence of the American Government? And so again I say God speed you in your truly national work.

Most respectfully, yours,

GERTRUDE GRISWALD.

(First prize of the Paris Conservatory, 1880.)

31 WELLINGTON STREET,  
Toronto, Canada, March 21, 1901.

MY DEAR MADAM SMEDLEY: Mrs. Ellis and self wish to thank you for the many kind favors you have shown our dear sister, Miss Florence G. Bell. We feel that you are temporarily taking her mother's place. We can assure you it is very comforting for us to know she has found in you a veritable godmother. Our appreciation of your kindness is such that you must always consider us as your very good friends, and should Canadian reference ever be of service to you or the institute you may with confidence use the writer, who will always do the American National Institute ample justice, and who is well acquainted in nearly all sections of the Dominion of Canada.

Again thanking you, we are always at your service.

Yours, very truly,

Mr. and Mrs. CHARLES S. ELLIS.

50 AVENUE D'ÉNA,  
Paris, December 9, 1900.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder and Director-General of the American National Institute.*  
(Mr. Henri von Daur, Secretary-General.)

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: With a feeling of gratitude I write sending my personal thanks to you who have done so much for the American student life in Paris. Some of us must become the American savant of to-morrow—your sheaves.

Oh, that we all might know and feel the pain, the labor, cost, the fortitude a masterpiece calls forth—yea, the sacrifice—and yours in its completion is indeed a masterpiece. Though not a magnificent piece of statuary, not a grand and imposing temple, no astonishing canvas, no thrilling musical composition, nor a poem that shall better or move thousands to tears, nor is it a profound scientific research, yet your work is all of these, for as the sculptor guides his chisel, the architect his pencil, the painter his brush, the musician his fingers or voice or pen, as the poet or as the scientist studies his problem and apparatus, you have studied and are now guiding American students.

Your masterpiece has been a tremendous undertaking. I bow in recognition and beg you to accept my grateful homage, and as I, so will all the American people when they realize what you have done for us as a nation.

You have filled a long-felt want, and with the fulfilling or realization of which we never dared hope for, much less expect.

The cry of the American student has ever been, "When will our people awaken?" for until now the great French masters have been our only succor, and they have been the only ones on whose kindness we could rely.

Thanks to Mr. von Daur, who succeeded in interesting these masters for our good.

How different and how much easier for the student who comes to Paris knowing he is capable of meeting and knowing these men from the poor student that worked and sweat, and thought that he might but have even an interview with one of these men, and when he finally was favored how he had all the hard upward climb against others, against the language, with no one to help him, no one that could speak a kind word for him. I, yes I, of all the American boys know best what Mr. von Daur has done for us, and I thank him.

Finally, I can but say for all and to all: Merci—thanks; and with regard to the students of Paris, I am ever at your service, with pleasure.

Yours,

HENRI SCHOENHARDT.

(Three years at the preliminary institute.)

PARIS, December 5, 1901.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: After being a pupil and resident of the preliminary house of the American National Institute I can fully appreciate the great advantage the institution will be to the young people of America.

The object and aims of this great work are so far-reaching that it demands the cooperation of every intelligent person.

While we all anxiously await the result of your visit to Washington, our hopes are founded upon our knowledge of the wonderful keen-sightedness of the American nation to recognize and grasp its opportunities.

That this is a great work, dear Miss Smedley, no one can possibly deny, the fulfillment of which will have an immense effect in making and helping forward the progress of a great nation.

My sincerest wishes are with you in your undertaking, and I am only sorry that the time has come for me to sever my connection as pupil of the institution.

My interest will always be with it and for it and its work.

Very sincerely yours,

A. JULIET HOWSON.

JANUARY, 1900.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: \* \* \* How few of those sitting at home near comfortable fires, in the joys of their families, know of what those abroad have to bear. It is going to make more difference to our country how they treat their students than how they treat their soldiers. Soldiers they can always draw, but not brains. Do any of our men at home realize our sacrifices—what they are worth to the nation? Is there no patriotism without the uniform? Then give us the institute and we will wear the uniform, but it is not the cloth that makes the soldier. All famous battles have been fought in shirt sleeves, and that is our uniform to-day, and worthy of America and the institute, which we must have.

Please remember while away from us that you have all our good wishes and sympathy and prayers for the commendation and guidance of Him above.

Yours,

HENRI SCHOENHARDT,  
*Student of the Preliminary House.*

GOSHEN, IND., January 19, 1904.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: It was my purpose to write you immediately upon my return to Chicago, assuring you of my approval of your great work in trying to establish an American National Institute in Paris. I feel quite certain that, could each of our United States Senators and Congressmen travel a season in Europe, not one of them would oppose your efforts, but would give it enthusiastic support. I wish it were possible for me to be in Washington pending the hearing of your bill, but it is quite out of the question. Call on Hons. Charles B. Landis and A. L. Brick, both from Indiana and friends of mine. Tell them that I trust they can see their way clear to, in their position as Congressmen, aid and assist you in your very great work.

Wishing you every success, I beg to remain,

Most respectfully,

F. M. Baker,  
*465 South Canal Street, Chicago, Ill.*

MR. MCKINLEY,

*President of the United States:*

MR. President, pardon me. I speak from an experience of twenty years spent in trying to awaken an interest in art in the public schools of America. I came over here nearly two years ago, worn out with the struggle, but the cry of the hungry followed me to Florence, and I held a summer class there last year. \* \* \* A residence of ten months in Italy convinced me, however, that that was not the place for such a work. I came to Paris last March, and was not here ten days before I was sure this was the center I was looking for. Then I found Miss Smedley, and discovered that the plans of the American National Institute were large enough to includemine—indeed, they are more advanced and outreaching than I had dreamed of.

I have other letters of the same import.

I would also like to read you a clipping from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch entitled "Money in art," also the many letters and signatures of the great masters who have given to their support.

JOSEPHINE LOCK,  
*Boston Conservatory of Music.*  
W. THEODORE PETERS.  
MRS. M. E. GIGNOUR.  
MAURICE LOUIS CHAMAUNAD.

CHICAGO, February 7, 1901.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: In every letter received from Florence she has never failed to speak of your invariable kindness to her in every way. You may rest assured it is fully appreciated by myself and family. You certainly have been a good friend to her, and, knowing this, we feel better satisfied to have her remain longer than she anticipated. I presume May will be her last month with you. We are all very anxious to see her once more, as she has practically been away from home two years.

Thanking you again, also your sister, for all the kindnesses she has received at your hands, also for the scholarship given her by you, and for the many cultured and refined people she has been introduced to by you, with the kindest wishes for yourself and sister, believe me,

Most sincerely, your friend,

M. A. BELL.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., February 10, 1902.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Thank you very much for the opportunity given me to examine the numerous letters and documents testifying so eloquently to the beneficence of your Paris enterprise. It is most interesting to learn the view of those who have had a chance for personal investigation of the institute and know so much better, of course, than I the nature of what you are trying to accomplish.

Let me confess just here that for some years I was a complete skeptic concerning it. The scheme seemed to me like many of the fine theories, impracticable and chimerical. I even questioned the necessity for any such undertaking, but there is now no doubt left in my mind concerning its desirability, even need, and my conversation with others interested in education who have personally looked over the ground confirms my belief.

That you may succeed abundantly is the wish of,

Cordially, yours,

CAROLINE B. LE ROW.

(For thirty years in public school.)

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE,  
Washington, D. C., May 19, 1902.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have been very much interested in your scheme for establishing in Paris an institute for the assistance of American students. I have heard it spoken of mainly with reference to those who go abroad for the purpose of studying art.

I hope that in your consideration of students you will not neglect those who visit Paris for the purpose of scientific instruction. There are many courses in the College de France which could be made available for Americans were they only better known. The generous cosmopolitan hospitality of French teachers is famous; indeed, it is a tradition among them ever since the days of Abelard. The Pasteur Institute has already had much effect in shaping the knowledge of infective diseases among American students and would gladly do more. There is also much hospital and laboratory work that is available for the training of foreigners.

All this should be taken in hand by the American Institute, as well as subjects relating to art. Many students go abroad each year for the purposes of study or of inspection of foreign work. They usually have an imperfect knowledge of French and have but a hazy idea of the advantages and resources of Paris. Consequently, a great deal of their time and money is wasted or, indeed, worse than wasted, for they too often yield themselves to the frivolities of the great city and return home without having accomplished any serious work. Had they been properly guided at the outset this would have been avoided. This, I take it, is what you desire to effect with the American Institute.

The Rockefeller Pathological Institute and the Carnegie Institution have in view the sending of students abroad for instruction, and it would seem eminently proper for an American Institute at Paris to assist and cooperate with these bodies.

Very truly, yours,

FRANK BAKER.



[The American National Institute, 1902.]

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I send you a pen talk in verse that tells the story of desire from my point of view, for I regard the proposed memorial (the American National Institute) an artistic expression of national gratitude and reciprocity for the alliance of 1781. With best wishes and kindest regards for the complete success of your work.

Sincerely,

FLORA ADAMS DARLING.

*Verses suggested at the unveiling of the Rochambeau monument, reviving memories of our French allies.*

1781-1902.

To-day we welcome sons of France  
Guests of a nation jointly won;  
Under two flags we meet again  
And now, as then, to stand as one.  
When Lafayette and Rochambeau  
With men and gold came in our need  
To make the hearts of patriots strong,  
As allied friends in word and deed,  
Faith led France to espouse our cause,  
Before the dawn of peace had come,  
In time of want, in time of doubt,  
To daunt the heart of Washington.

Turn back the page of history  
To seventeen hundred eighty-one,  
To men who fought our fight to win,  
Our French allies, at old Yorktown;  
Now, in the noonday of our might,  
We hail with pride the allies kin,  
The sons of France, the men of war,  
Who helped our patriot sires to win.

Again, alliance is our theme,  
We hear the echo o'er the sea,  
To voice the glories of the past,  
To sing the song of victory!  
Let a memorial be raised  
In sunny France to aid our own;  
In honor of our French allies,  
A tribute to our Washington.  
Let us erect a school of art,  
A national institute of fame,  
A monument to our progress  
And glories won in our own name.  
A gift of land France now donates,  
A site in Paris of renown,  
The States accept with many thanks  
And pledge the keystone arch to crown;  
Then in one voice let us respond,  
Let Congress meet the founder's plan,  
Through scholarships on merit based  
To aid art students' just demand;  
Let sons of noble sires unite  
To strike the keynote of success,  
Let daughters weave a laurel wreath  
To crown the gifts of God's bequest.

Now, to the founder friend Godspeed,  
The initial work becomes a law,  
Congress accepts the gift from France,  
A deed of land without a flaw;  
The national institute—to rise  
Amid environments of art  
To foster talent of our home,  
And may each State do noble part,  
Take back to our old friends of France  
A hope fulfilled in God's own way,  
A monument to allied art  
To mark the march of destiny.

—FLORA ADAMS DARLING, A. M.

TO MISS SMEDLEY.

DECEMBER 31, 1903.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: If your work in behalf of American art in France does nothing else than systematize the affairs of our American students you will have accomplished a great deal of good. Therefore no practical American should criticize the project adversely, and all who have studied in Europe will, I am sure, give you every encouragement. Personally I would hope that eventually the work might be established on the broadest personal lines, including science as well as art. However far it is destined to go, you have my best wishes for its success.

Sincerely,

CAREY CULBERTSON, M. D.,  
Chicago, Ill.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
Washington, D. C.

126 EAST PLATTE AVENUE,  
Colorado Springs, January 14, 1904.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: My time was so short in New York with Mrs. Davis it was impossible to give myself the pleasure I so hoped to enjoy in seeing you.

I can not tell you what an interest I took in all you told us about having a national institute in Paris for American students. Anyone who has ever seen the deplorable condition of young Americans who go abroad in hope of benefiting by the numberless advantages only to be found there can realize what it would mean to the students themselves. As for America herself, one can not begin to count the harvests she would reap in a few years. To the students a national institute in any city abroad, and especially in Paris, would mean the greatest and most needful protection, both morally and mentally. They would lose no time nor money in floundering about, sometimes for months, before they find the right companions and teachers. To America, to begin with, it would mean having some real claim on the students, so that in finishing their studies in Paris or elsewhere their first thought would be to return to their native country and give to it what now is given every year to almost any other country but our own. To go into foreign galleries and see both pictures and sculpture, the work of American artists (and work that any nation would be proud of), to see it there and realize it is there only because the artists find acknowledgment and appreciation more in almost any other place than at home, is, to say the least, most exasperating. All the more so because we all know, with a few efforts, we could make American students just as proud and willing to give their best to their own country as Frenchmen are to theirs.

If we could recall the talent that rightly belongs to us and give it the place that is its due in any country, a great deal of this going abroad by moneyed Americans in quest of art and music and many other things to be found there, and could also be found to a great extent at home, if only we, as a people, would show things at home. Starting a national institute in Paris would be the very best way to begin this great change in the present condition of affairs, and I hope with all my heart you will succeed in bringing this about. It is a thing in which I take the greatest interest, and will do anything in my limited power to encourage and help.

Hoping you will in the very near future realize what now you are striving so valiantly to obtain, believe me,

Yours, most sincerely,

JANE ROBINSON.

THE WESTMINSTER,  
Boston, Mass., August 6.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I talked a great deal about the institute to some people on the steamer, and everyone thinks it such a wonderful work and that you are such a wonderful woman. It is new to so many people; but they take the greatest interest in it and think there can only possibly be one result, and that is that the building is a certainty.

People have only to know about this work to realize how much it means for America and Americans. It is really a great advantage to those who are so favored as to be in the institute even now, and what would it be when you are able to carry out fully your ideas for the future of the institute. You were all so kind to me and I thoroughly appreciate all the institute did for me. With such dear people as you, the countless, and count, what can you not do? For no sane person could refuse you anything. I am sure you will get your appropriation. You will soon, if you have not already, have a letter from Miss Charlotte Lynn. She is the young lady of whom I wrote to Mrs. Stanley P. Clemens. Mrs. Clemens is away from Boston, but she wrote me that Miss Lynn would write you immediately. Dear Miss Smedley,

when you come to Boston, Doctor and I want you to come to the Westminster as our guest. Be sure and write me before you leave Paris and you must come to Boston. My love to your dear sister and remembrance to the count and Mrs. Muller.

Yours, with gratitude and affection,

ETTA EDWARDS.

I will write again when I can write a decent letter.

E. E.

The necessity for American genius alienating itself from home in search of those art opportunities which are only to be found in the Old World has brought upward of 3,000 young people to Paris to study and prepare for their life occupation.

I plead that the home Government owes some duty to these temporary exiles whose labors eventually must increase the wealth of our country.

The history of art in France, England, and Germany teaches that money spent by these Governments for art purposes in less than twenty years has trebled its value to the nation. Surely an American investment will be no exception.

We are grateful to you for the recognition given to the work of the institute in Document 398 and also for the report of the Secretary of State concerning the erection of a permanent building. Knowing as I do the conditions of student life in Europe, I am convinced that an international project is the only solution. While its delay is unfortunate, the cause remains uninjured. We only look to you the more confidently, that with that large sagacity which has characterized your Administration you will carry the measure successfully through the next session of Congress.

From the standpoint of our industrial and social relations the work is an economic necessity and its location is wisely chosen, for Paris is not only the art but the intellectual center of the modern world.

The appreciation of France is shown in her concession of ground free of taxation, in donations of pictures, in the reduction of tuition fees, in free lecture courses, and in a generous hospitality toward science, letters, and the arts utterly unknown in America—a hospitality that does not hesitate to offer its best free of charge to the humblest foreigner provided he has the ability to appreciate it.

The work done at 50 Avenue d'Iena since last October is its own demonstration. The health, morals, time, and money of students have been saved through being put in immediate connection with the right institutions and authorities. Three students have already enjoyed the benefit of free scholarships.

Mr. President, pardon me, I speak from an experience of twenty years spent in trying to awaken an interest in art in the public schools of America. I came over here nearly two years ago worn-out with the struggle, but the cry of the hungry followed me to Florence and I held a summer class there last year. Among those in attendance was Miss Mary McDonald, of New York City.

A residence of ten months in Italy convinced me, however, that that was not the place for such a work. I came to Paris last March and was not here ten days before I was sure this was the center I was looking for. Then I found Miss Smedley and discovered that the plans of the American National Institute were large enough to include mine—indeed, they are more advanced and outreaching than I had dreamed of.

Very respectfully, yours,

JOSEPHINE C. LOCKE,  
*Supervisor of Drawing, Chicago Public Schools.*

LYCEUM THEATER, *March 30, 1898.*

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY.

DEAR MADAM: Before I had the pleasure of hearing from your own lips an account of the efforts you are making to interest lovers of art in your plans to make art study abroad available to American students, I had heard a great deal on the subject from my daughter, Mrs. Charles H. Riegel.

From my association with the American Academy of Dramatic Arts I am familiar with the temptations and temperament of ordinary art students, and am in complete sympathy with your conviction that a crying need exists for such an American National Institute as you are laboring to establish; nay, more, I am convinced that no one who, having the means yet lacks the will to assist in such an enterprise, can be a true lover of art.

I am, dear madam, very truly,

FRED WILLIAMS.

PARIS, February, 1900.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: The Prix de Paris! A noble thought to be cast in imperishable marble! An American National Institute on the banks of the Seine, whose halls will be written over with the new names of glory! Under the porticos of this academy will gather future knights of science, art, and literature. The poet will find his place. The future poet must be omniscient if he wishes to console the world's pain.

With dutiful and true regard,

WILLIAM THEODORE PETERS.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: As I am very much interested in the noble work you have been so earnestly promoting, will you kindly forward me a copy of letters from circular of information, pages 15, 20-22, 30, etc., regarding the same, as referred to in *Musical Courier* of July 7.

Sincerely, yours,

MARRINER FLOYD,  
*President Boston Conservatory of Music.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: It is with pleasure that I extend to you the courtesy of an honorary membership in our council of the Boston Conservatory of Music, in recognition of the great work you are doing for the art we love so well.

Respectfully, yours,

MARRINER FLOYD, *President.*

WEDNESDAY, March 13, 1901.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am sorry that I have not been able to pay you what I owe you as yet, but I hope to be able soon, as I have written to all of my friends for money. I have received only enough money (since I left your place) to live on. My own money is all gone, and my father has had business troubles and can not send me much.

If I can not raise enough money to pay you with while I am over here, I will send it from America. I am going back as soon as possible (if I can get back) and go to work at my old occupation, and as I can make money at that I will be able to forward you the amount very soon.

I hope that you will believe me when I state that I intend to pay you as soon as possible. I will have to work my way back home and will be glad if I can get the chance to do that even, as I am very much run down in health and entirely sick of this trip. My next attempt at a foreign education will be when I have a bank account of my own.

I hope that you are in good health and are having success in your work.

Yours, sincerely,

H. E. B.

P. S.—Please give my best regards to Mr. and Mrs. von Daur.

H. E. B.

The idea of an institute for American girl students in Paris is one that has always greatly interested me, and I cordially indorse this effort to put it into execution.

KATHARINE DE FOREST.

I thoroughly approve of this much-needed institution in France, and from an experience of many years' residence in Paris realize this great need of a well-organized home for self-supporting women.

EFFIE MACKENZIE EVANS,  
*49 Avenue de l'Opéra, Paris.*

I very heartily commend the purpose of this undertaking and look confidently to its successful accomplishment.

GEO. S. MALORY,  
*Editor of The Churchman, New York City.*

I have read many times of the crowded quarters of the girl students in that great city, and will be ready to lend a hand to the work when you visit our coast. If you come to London next month I should be so glad to know you better and learn of your great life work.

Our London address is:

Mrs. Wm. S. EDWARDS,  
Care of S. K. Mfg. Co., Ltd.,  
Broad Street House, London.

PARIS, October 27, 1896.

I am delighted to see the success Miss Smedley has met with in this most useful work. I appreciate what this work means to America.

I shall be most happy to contribute a small picture, not to be sold except at price fixed by the artist. Picture to be delivered within six months from this date.

JULIUS STEWART.

PARIS, October 28, 1896.

It will give me pleasure to contribute a small picture to the good cause in which Miss Smedley has interested us all. The picture, like others, will be delivered in six months, and to be held at a price fixed by the painter.

E. L. WEEKS.

Je considère l'entreprise de Miss Smedley comme une grande œuvre et comme une nécessité de notre siècle.

CHAS. FRANK HOFFMANN, D. D., LL. D., D. C. L.,  
31 West Seventy-second Street, New York.

MARDI DE PÂQUES, 1895.

Je suis de tout cœur pour la réussite de ce grand projet.

J. HOLLMAN.

Je suis trop heureux d'apporter mon modeste concours à cette grande œuvre et j'inscris mon nom de grand cœur.

LAURENT, *De l'Opéra.*

53 WEST NINETY-SECOND STREET,  
New York, January 29, 1905.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Truly a grand idea "an American National Institute" in the city of art and beauty. Let us hope that this (your) idea may soon be carried out for the benefit of the American student, as well as for the benefit of the American nation.

If the United States Government represents the people there ought to be as little delay as possible to bring about a successful issue.

Believe me, dear Miss Smedley,

Yours, very sincerely,

BERN. BOECKELMAN.

64 WEST NINETY-EIGHTH, STREET,  
New York, January 19, 1902.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: No doubt you have forgotten me, but my wife and myself often think and speak of you. A young lady leaving for Paris to study was advised to call and see me for the address of a good school where she could study voice and repertoire, and I sent her to you. I am thinking very seriously of trying to make my debut in opera at the Opera Comique and write to ask if you can give me any advice on the subject. I realize to make a success in opera I will have to get my "programme" in Europe, and to me Paris is the only place. I would come

equipped with the language and the operas. What I want is the experience. I suppose you remember my voice and I can honestly say I feel it improves all the time.

Remembering that you were personally acquainted with Senator Chauncey Depew, and now that the Senator has just been married he will entertain lavishly at the capital, and in those entertainments vocalists are generally engaged. Thinking a letter from you saying I had sung at the preliminary institute to which he had been invited, feel sure it would do much good. I am also trying to sing for society in New York this winter and if you can help me reach any of the musical people, same will be greatly appreciated, and perhaps some day I can reciprocate.

I suppose your school is now all you desire and sailing in smooth waters. My wife and self wish to be kindly remembered to your sister and brother-in-law. With kind wishes to you from my wife and self.

I remain, very sincerely,

CLIFFORD ALEXANDER WILEY.

TORONTO, CANADA,  
March 21, 1901.

MY DEAR MADAM SMEDLEY: Mrs. Ellis and self wish to thank you for the many kind favors you have shown our dear little sister, Miss Florence G. Bell; we feel that you are temporarily taking her mother's place. We can assure you it is very comforting for us to know that Florence is so comfortably placed and that she has found in you a veritable "Fairy godmother."

Our appreciation of your kindness is such that you must always consider us as your very good friends, and should Canadian reference ever be of service to you or your institute, you may with confidence use the writer, who will always do your institute ample justice, and who is well acquainted in nearly all sections of the Dominion of Canada.

Again sincerely thanking you for your kind motherly love so freely given to our dear little sister Florence, we are always at your service.

Yours, very truly,

Mr. and Mrs. CHARLES S. ELLIS.

CARNEGIE HALL, NEW YORK,  
February 1, 1905.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I can not express to you my admiration for the gigantic work which you have accomplished by establishing "An American National Institute" in Paris. My experience as a student abroad and a teacher for many years in the United States, proves to me how necessary such an institution as this is for the American student abroad, not only intellectually but morally.

Wishing you all the success in the world,

I am, very sincerely,

GIACOMO MINKOWSKI.

Mr. FRYE presented the following

**LIST OF NAMES AND LETTERS OF PERSONS SUPPORTING THE  
INCORPORATION OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT  
PARIS, FRANCE.**

JANUARY 27, 1904.—Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed.

Extracts from letters received by Miss Smedley indorsing the institution, introduced in the Senate by Senator Frye, 1904:

DIOCESAN HOUSE,  
29 Lafayette Place, New York, March 20, 1896.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: With a board of examiners composed of the president of the National Academy of Design, the president of the Architectural League, and other equally important persons to test the qualification of the person to be sent abroad

for study, such an enterprise as you have in mind for that purpose has, undoubtedly, advantages of considerable value.

Very truly, yours,

H. C. POTTER,  
*Bishop of New York.*

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH,  
*Washington, D. C., March 27, 1905.*

I hope and pray for the success of a project which means so much for our future as a nation.

D. J. STAFFORD.

MY DEAR MADAM: I have examined with much interest the rough draft of the project for the foundation of a National American Institute in Paris for the education of American students in music, in art, in literature, and the like. I have no doubt that such an institution as is proposed will be most useful and very serviceable indeed to many American students. The plan also commends itself to me as one likely to be successful in accomplishing the results aimed at. I hope you will be able to command the cooperation that is necessary to put the project upon its feet.

Yours, respectfully,

SETH LOW,  
*President Columbia College.*

1896.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Your plan for the establishment in Paris of an institute for American girls commands my hearty approval.

It will always be the ambition of our gifted students of art to perfect themselves in their studies through the generous provision which the French people have made for the encouragement of such talent. Our girls who go to Paris for that purpose should have all the considerate care and genial surroundings which it is possible to secure. This is not always easy to accomplish. Your institute therefore meets an absolute need. It is a breath of home in that beautiful city.

The fact that you have enlisted the cordial sympathy and support of so many men and women distinguished in character and position in Paris, is testimony both to the worthy character of your undertaking and their personal confidence and esteem for you. It would be strange indeed if there were not as many and as noble men and women in this country to give you equal countenance and support.

As to the invitation with which you honor me to take a place on your board of managers, you are aware that my residence is in Maine, but I shall be happy to cooperate with you according to my ability.

Yours, with highest esteem,

JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN,  
*General, U. S. Army, ex-Governor of Maine.*

I wish by this letter, which you can publish if you think it useful, to let all my American friends know that I give my moral support to your enterprise, and I hope they will help us for the sake of their young countrywomen.

I know, dear Miss Smedley, that since you began to work for the realization of this dream of yours and of Mrs. Walden Pell you have certainly put in practice the motto which our dear friend the duchess of Pomar has made her own, "Commit thy work to God," and in this same faith I will do all I can to help you.

EMILIE DE MORSIER,  
*Organizer and secretary-general of the Congress of women's work  
held at Paris, 1889, under the patronage of the French Government.*

True friend of my true and faithful friend, I approve with all my heart this idea of yours. The Prix de Paris will be a worthy mate to the Prix de Rome.

ISABELLE BOGELOT,  
*Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur, membre honoraire du Comité.*

Paris, 1895.

You have done me the honor to explain to me your plan of founding an establishment for American girls who come to Paris for the purpose of studying art. To insure its success the generous heart and the practical sense are required, and both my friends and myself are entirely at your disposal for anything which could help you in your work.

The sixth ward of Paris is too proud to possess on its territory the School of Arts and Ecole des Arts Décoratifs, to remain indifferent to the studies which you intend to favor. Will you allow me then, in the name of Mr. Paul Colin, painter, chevalier de la Légion d'honneur, subdirector of the Ecole des Arts Décoratifs, inspector, etc., and my former colleague, 2, quai Malaquais, and in the name of Mr. Ferdinand Chaigneau, also painter and engraver, Cité des Fleurs, and both of whom highly approve of your idea, which I explained to them, as well as in my own, to thank you for having kindly associated us in your work.

Respectfully,

F. HERBET, LL. D.

*Lawyer at the court of appeals, membre du Comité.*

COLUMBIA COLLEGE,  
MADISON AVENUE AND FORTY-NINTH STREET,  
New York City, April 9, 1895.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have looked over your scheme for providing in Paris a place where American young women can live and pursue to advantage their professional studies. The end in view seems a most serviceable one, and the scheme itself, so far as the details have been worked out, seems to be admirably adapted to the conditions. If I can serve you in any way I shall be glad to do so, though these things are quite outside the time of my own activities.

Yours, very sincerely,

WILLIAM R. WARE.

NEW YORK, November 12, 1894.

Hitherto I have invariably opposed the idea of young girls going abroad to study art excepting under the care of a matron. But the expense connected with such an undertaking could be afforded only by a very few.

Now the American National Institute will reduce the outlay to a minimum. A motherly and intelligent oversight will guard and guide the young ladies in their respective studies. Such a privilege is of inestimable value, and must be quickly appreciated by every American parent.

ANGE-ALBERT PATTOU.

PARIS, January 16, 1895.

MADemoisELLE: You have done me the honor to associate my name with the names of those Frenchmen whose advice and sympathy you wished to ask in behalf of the work which it has been your generous idea to found in Paris.

It is with great pleasure that, having heard the exposure of your plan, I add my signature to those of my illustrious compatriots who had desired to give you a testimonial of their approval.

I will not let you start for America without renewing to you the expression of my best wishes for the success of your enterprise. Without any doubt its success will depend on the manner in which it will be conducted. Much activity, zeal, and prudence will be required. But if those who will superintend its organization and the working of it are not deficient in those essentially American qualities, one is entitled to hope that through it great benefit will result to both your country and ours.

To offer to American girls, desirous of studying art, science, or literature in France, a home both comfortable and safe, which, for the smallest price possible, will be to them a center of reunion, provided with the necessary resources, a shelter from solitude, loneliness, and the many dangers to which a large, strange city would expose them, and in which, without losing any of their individual liberty, they will find the best indications and encouragements; surely this is creating a most useful work for your country. It is creating also a useful and honorable one for mine, in helping to develop between the two great Republics the connections of every kind that already subsist between them. I, consequently, can not do otherwise than wish sincerely for its full realization, and I beg to renew to you, Mademoiselle, the expression of my most respectful sentiment.

FREDERIC PASSY, O.,

*Membre de l'Institut, membre honoraire du Comité.*



NEW YORK, *February 17, 1896.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I write to renew to you the assurance of my warm approval of the enterprise you have in hand for the establishment of an art institute in Paris, which shall place the great advantage of art culture in all the prominent branches of art within the reach of the young women of America who desire such assistance.

I am a firm believer in the great and substantial advantages which are to be derived from music, painting, and from all artistic expressions of the beautiful; nor do I limit the advantages to be derived from these sources as merely pleasurable emotions. They become gradually assimilated with civilization itself, and a people gifted in art and fond of its varied forms of expression gains not only in refinement but also in power, in material wealth, and in attainment of everything that is of benefit to the human race.

On the terms in your circular you may enroll me as a subscriber for \$100.

E. ELLERY ANDERSON.

88 RUE JOUFFROY,  
*Paris, November, 1896.*

DEAR MADAM: I approve heartily of the American Institute and believe it will overcome the difficulties which beset student life in Paris.

On my part, I propose to give lessons at a reduced price (known to the executive committee) to two young ladies coming from the institute and fulfilling the conditions which I think indispensable for a successful career:

1. They must not be under 18 years of age nor over 22.
  2. They must have a good constitution, healthy lungs, and unspoiled voices.
  3. They must be prepared to remain at their studies at least two years for concert and teaching, and three years to be fit for opera.
  4. They must know French, Italian, or German, besides their own language.
  5. They must know general history, as well as the history of music.
  6. They must also play the piano and read music.
  7. For an operatic career a good stage figure and a first-rate voice are indispensable.
- Thus, with a good foundation laid in America, students coming to Paris can pursue their finishing course with great advantage under the guidance of the institute, and our mutual work will have the result we all wish for.

Wishing you a complete success in your national and humane undertaking,

I remain, dear madam, sincerely, yours,

MATHILDE MARCHESI.

1896.

Miss Helen Cooke will be pleased to do anything in her power in connection with Wellesly College to assist Miss Smedley in her work.

NEW YORK CITY, 1895.

I am in hearty support of the project of the American National Institute of Paris, and will give a concert for its benefit.

ANTON SEIDL.

OCTOBER 1, 1895.

It will give me great pleasure to assist in any way possible toward promoting an institute of such undoubted worth as the proposed American Institute of Paris.

WALTER DAMROSCH.

Am proud to follow such illustrious examples. Will certainly have much pleasure in giving a concert for the benefit of the institution at a date mutually agreeable.

Faithfully and sincerely, yours,

ALBERT GÉRARD-THIERS.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY, *Paris:*

I wish you most heartily success in your grand enterprise, and will give you a concert for a benefit.

J. HOLLMAN.

1895.

The fact that the music trades owe their being and draw their sustenance from professors and students of music makes the recent arrival from Paris of Miss Smedley, director and promoter of the institute for American students, a matter of especial interest.—*Music Trades*.

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25 WEST SIXTY-EIGHTH STREET,  
New York City, February 25, 1895.

The plan suggested by Miss Smedley of assisting art students in Paris, providing not only for their advancement in art studies, but for proper institute accommodations and influences, must meet the approval of everyone. With a good organization and an accomplished executive leader the work must be successful.

HENRY G. MARQUAND.

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NEW YORK.

I appreciate how greatly this is needed by American students sufficiently advanced to avail themselves of the wonderful advantages and artistic atmosphere which renders Paris such a world-renowned center of culture. Wishing you full success, I remain, yours, sincerely,

S. D. DOREMUJ.

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As understood by me, Miss Smedley's plan for an institution for art students in Paris seems to be a most excellent one and worthy of the hearty support of all.

HORACE W. ROBBINS, N. A.,  
157 East Sixtieth Street, New York.

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NEW YORK CITY, 1895.

I believe in this so heartily that I am going to take a share in the stock, and I will use my influence and interest in Paris this winter as well as at home.

HELENA DE KAY GILDER.

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I very heartily indorse this project, and hope it will be pushed to completion. I know of no better work in the interest of humanity and art. You may enroll me for \$100.

RICHARD WATSON GILDER.

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Je m'associe bien volontiers à l'œuvre de l'Institut National Américain et j'applaudis de grand cœur aux efforts artistiques des fondateurs.

TH. DUBOIS, O.,  
*Membre de l'Institut, Directeur du Conservatoire,  
Membre honoraire du Comité du Conseil de l'Institut National Américain.*

PARIS, 7 novembre 1896.

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L'idée que vous avez eue est excellente et je ne puis que faire des vœux pour le développement et le succès de votre œuvre. Je vous adresse mes respectueux hommages.

ANTONY RATIER,  
*Sénateur, Membre du Comité.*

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To secure the health and progress which render success possible to the student of singing the accomplishment of this work is absolutely indispensable.

BLANCHE SMEDLEY VON DAUR,  
New York.

PARIS, 1896.

Everything which concerns the welfare, physical, intellectual, and moral, of American art students in Paris interests me deeply; especially do I sympathize with the young girls and women in the peculiar difficulties they have to encounter.

Our dear Mrs. Pell, whom we so love and revere, has joined you in the important enterprise you have undertaken in behalf of young American ladies studying in Paris, aided by the endowments you will secure from benevolent rich persons at home. You will be instrumental in the development of a few students who, like Rosa Bonheur, will be a source of pride to their country; of many singers whose rich cultivated voices will win them fortune and fame; in all branches of art you will be useful to the few favored ones who are gifted with true genius.

You will also aid hundreds of brave, bright girls to fit themselves to be teachers of painting, sculpture, architecture, engraving, music, etc., in our schools all over America, and here, I believe, will be the true source of your influence for good.

Alas, in the arts "many are called and few are chosen." You will also be able to rescue from want and temptations myriads of mistaken ones who never can succeed in their studies. You will provide them with salutary counsel, with restraining influence, and with material aid. Tell our American girls with scanty means, with delicate health, not to come abroad rashly. Even money, strength, and courage are not sufficient to create artists; without heaven-bestowed faculties the best of training is insufficient.

With my best sympathy in your enterprise,

Yours, cordially,

ELIZABETH GARDINER.

To Miss Mathilde Smedley, founder American National Institute:

Toil on, fair lady, in your work of love,  
Leading earth's climbers to the heights above;  
And while with gentle hand you smooth the road,  
And lighten many a weary mortal's load,  
Remember that whoe'er, by word or deed,  
Cheers one aspiring spirit in its need,  
Or helps one struggling artist soul to rise,  
Lifts all mankind still nearer to the skies.

—LUCTUS PERRY HILL.

ATLANTA, GA., May 3, 1897.

LONDON, February 20, 1897.

I think it a highly meritorious and excellent thing that an institution is being formed in Paris to teach music to all Americans who desire a thoroughly efficient musical education.

ADELINA (PATTI) NICOLINI.

The American National Institute has all my sympathy. I hope with all my heart that we shall soon see it erected in Paris.

CHRISTINE (née) NILSSON,  
Comtesse Casa di Miranda.

ART STUDENTS' LEAGUE OF NEW YORK,  
215 West Fifty-seventh Street, November 14, 1895.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
118 West Eighty-fourth street.

DEAR MADAM: The proposed American Art Institute at Paris, meets with our approval. The need of such an institution is manifest to those conversant with the conditions of student life in Paris.

We trust that you will be successful in this work, to which you have so unselfishly devoted yourself, and also hope that its foundation may be followed with the establishment of scholarships to aid deserving students who are so often unable to complete projected studies.

Yours, very truly,

GEO. W. BRECK,  
President Art Students' League.

L'Institution d'un Prix de Paris sera sans aucun doute féconde pour la grande République Américaine; elle sera en tout cas un grand honneur pour la France.

D. PUECH,  
Député de Paris.

Je m'associe de tout cœur à la bonne idée de créer à Paris un grand institut américain.

E. BARRIAS,  
Membre de l'institut, membre du jury du Prix de Paris.

J'applaudis de grand cœur au développement de l'Institut national américain, et je ne doute pas qu'il ne contribue à l'accroissement des relations entre les universités américaines et françaises pour le plus grand bien de la France et des Etats-Unis.

EMILE PICARD.

Heureux de s'associer par ses vœux les plus sincères à une œuvre qui honore les Etats-Unis et qui resserrera les liens entre les deux Républiques.

GEORGES PICOT.

*Secrétaire perpétuel de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques.*

PARIS, le 25 juillet 1901.

Je souhaite de tout cœur que les liens qui unissent si étroitement déjà les deux grandes Républiques se ressèrent davantage, et je suis convaincu que la fondation d'un institut national américain à Paris y aiderait puissamment.

Je fais donc des vœux pour la réalisation de cette idée.

BELLAN,

*Conseiller municipal de Paris.*

PARIS, le 30 juillet 1901.

L'œuvre de l'Institut national américain offre les plus vifs intérêts; elle marque un lien d'union plus étroite entre les deux Républiques; elle affirme la solidité dans la collaboration au progrès de l'esprit humain; elle confirme la vitalité et le rayonnement du génie français.

JOHN LABUSQUIÈRE,

*Conseiller municipal de Paris, né en Louisiane et aimant toujours son pays natal.*

PARIS, le 18 septembre 1900.

Je forme les vœux les plus sincères pour le succès de l'Institut national américain, et je suis très heureux de m'associer aux efforts de ses fondateurs en mettant un de nos instruments à titre gracieux à la disposition des jeunes musiciens qui viendront compléter leurs études sous son patronage.

A. BLONDEL,

*Directeur de la maison Erard.*

PARIS, le 7 février 1901.

Je suis charmé comme "Nationaliste" de voir la vieille France ouvrir de plus en plus largement au monde ses trésors d'art et de pensée.

J'approuve donc absolument le projet de l'American National Institute.

JULES LEMAITRE,

*Membre de l'Académie française, membre du jury du Prix de Paris.*

Tous les vœux d'un homme dont les sentiments ne se sont jamais démentis pour les Américains et les Canadiens, pour les frères et les amis de l'autre côté de l'eau.

HERBETTE,

*Conseiller d'Etat.*

24 JANVIER 1901.

La ville de Paris devenant la Rome du Nouveau-Monde c'est toute la gloire antique passant par nos mains pour être la grandeur des peuples modernes et l'orgueil de la France éducatrice.

ARM. GRÉBAUVAL,

*Président du Conseil municipal de Paris.*

ST. PAUL, October 19, 1895.

MADAME: I beg leave to speak my word of approval in favor of the Home for American Women Students of Arts in Paris. Of the need of this home and of the many advantages to American women whose desire to study brings them to the French capital, there can be no doubt. The success of the home is already assured.

Those who have undertaken to organize it are persons of such well-known probity that no failure is possible with them. My best wishes will accompany their labors.

Respectfully,

JOHN IRELAND,  
*Archbishop of St. Paul.*

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I have listened to Miss Smedley's explanation of her plan for the education and training of American girls in the city of Paris, France, and have examined recommendations of her method by some of the best men at home and abroad, and I think such a school as she has in her mind merits the support of every lover of art and morality.

THOMAS HUNTER,  
*President Normal College, New York City.*

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MISS SMEDLEY.

DEAR MADAM: I have read the draft of your circular, and think it is very clear and to the point. On the understanding that the benefits are to be given to deserving students, selected by proper examination, I have no hesitation in indorsing your enterprise.

If you carry out your plan of paying for land and building, and rely on the income to meet the running expenses, it could hardly fail to succeed.

Very truly, yours,

HOWARD RUSSELL BUTLER, *President,*  
*135 West Forty-seventh Street.*

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CAIRO, March 4, 1897

With my greatest sympathy for this noble and highly patriotic work.

C. BELANFONTA OSTBERY,  
*Consul-General, Stockholm.*

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BROOKLYN, July 27, 1903.

This is a work that touches all the people of our nation.

J. H. LAMFORT.

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I most heartily approve and applaud Miss Smedley's great undertaking, and contribute with much pleasure my bronze bust of the Abbé Liszt, modeled from life at the Ville d'Este for his eminence Prince Cardinal Hohenlohe.

M. EZEKIEL, *Sculptor.*

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ROME, March 27, 1897.

Franklin Simons will be happy to contribute to the American National Institute a medallion likeness of Miss Smedley.

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439 FIFTH AVENUE, November 17, 1896.

You will be pleased to learn that several of my friends in Paris and London talked to me this summer about your noble undertaking, and praised it most highly. I wanted to tell you this when you did me the honor of calling on me the other day, but forgot to tell you; and I have been thinking also about the many flattering letters and encouragements you have received from so many illustrious people; but allow me to advise you to ask the signature, with a word of encouragement, from the French ambassador.

An American institution of that kind, I shouldn't wonder, will be followed by a similar one from many a country. Rome is no longer the Mecca of art. It has long ago been Paris, and every one of us owes a great, a very great, debt to Paris. Therefore, we should all erect a temple and a laboratorium in Paris.

Please keep me posted with the successful development of your missionary work, and believe me your humblest but most devoted admirer.

Respectfully, yours,

HUBERT VOS.

The plan is indeed most worthy of hearty approval and support. I wish the boys also might find such sympathy, and perhaps some day it may be extended to them.

D. HUNTINGTON,

*Ex-President National Academy, New York.*

PARIS, 1895.

Inclosed please find a clipping from the Herald. You see, my dear friend, your beautiful, noble work is being talked of in all directions, not only in our own country, but over all Europe, for which not a little credit is due the Herald.

The forming of an association which will be willing and ready to help (by its protection) those who are willing and anxious to help themselves, will do a great amount of good, and fill many, many hearts to overflowing with gratitude toward all those who have been instrumental in furthering your grand undertaking.

Many of our young American women are, as we all know, full of talents and ambition, talents which have often had to be unperfected from the impracticability of allowing a young, beautiful girl to come alone to Europe (to the land of perfect art) to finish the oftentimes wonderful gifts with which she has been endowed.

Now, my dear Miss Smedley, you are about to do away with many of the fears which must fill every mother's heart, no matter how much she may rely upon the moral strength of the dear child she bids "God speed," as she sends her with a mother's blessing and prayers across the great Atlantic to a strange land, often to struggle against allurements and temptations which are only too frequently held out to our young girls under the guise of assistance and advancement, but which, literally, would mean failure to their most cherished hopes of success.

That God may bless you and this great effort is the prayer and wish of your friend,

B. WEEKS.

NEW YORK.

To secure the health and progress which render success possible to the student of singing the accomplishment of this work is absolutely indispensable.

BLANCHE SMEDLEY VON DAUR.

DEAR MADAM: The proposed American Art Institute at Paris meets with our approval. The need of such an institution is manifest to those conversant with the conditions of student life in Paris.

We trust that you will be successful in this work, to which you have so unselfishly devoted yourself, and also hope that its foundation may be followed with the establishment of scholarships to aid deserving students who are so often unable to complete projected studies.

Yours, very truly,

GEO. W. BRECK,

*President Art Students' League.*

[Boosey & Co., music publishers.]

NEW YORK.

DEAR MADAM: In reply to your favor addressed to Mr. Hollman, it gives me pleasure to grant him permission to play at the concert you are now arranging in aid of the National Institute, Paris, for American students.

Wishing you success, I am, dear madam,

Yours, truly,

GEORGE MAXWELL, *Manager.*

It is my belief that a properly managed and liberally conducted institute in Paris for American students who go there to study would be a thoroughly good thing, and fill a useful sphere.

Yours, sincerely,

CARROLL BECKWITH.

NEW YORK, 1896.

I cordially approve the proposition here formulated, to wit, that American students in Paris should have the largest amount of comfort and privilege consistent with moral security.

DAVID JAMES BURRELL,  
*Pastor of the Collegiate Church.*

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PARIS, 1896.

I thank you for kindly letting me know something in detail of the projected institution. I quite feel with you that another "home" for American students here is not necessary, and I realize doubly that it is desirable that our young Americans interested in art should not come to Paris to study unless they possess an unusual talent, or the means to sustain themselves in the simplest way while here. Your suggestion of an examination in America and of a Prix de Paris, corresponding in a measure with the Prix de Rome, seems to me a very admirable one.

Yours, very truly,

JOHN B. MORGAN, D. D.,  
*Rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity.*

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PARIS.

From every point of view I find your proposed enterprise grand and wonderful, and it is with great pleasure that I add my name to the list containing so many eminent names.

BAISSAC, *Official Int.*

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58 WEST FIFTY-SEVENTH STREET,  
*New York, November 4, 1896.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: The provision for girl students in Paris of a building which shall be at once a school and a home seems to be a desirable thing. There will certainly be no lack of students, but those who are admitted should be such as have proved their capacity to profit by such exceptional advantages as Paris offers; in a word, it should be a school for advanced students. A great deal of good can be done by making the physical conditions easier than they have sometimes been to students in Paris; that is to say, if the scholars find good food and comfortably warmed and well-lighted rooms to live in, their work will be all the better for it. I am,

Yours, very sincerely,

EDWIN H. BLASHFIELD.

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PARIS.

This institute recommends itself to every Franco-American; my heartiest wishes for its success.

HENRI VIGNAUD,  
*Secretary of the United States Embassy.*

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PARIS, 1896.

I am charmed with your undertaking, and you have my heartiest wishes for a final success.

MOUNET-SULLY, *Actor.*

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PARIS, 1896.

Situated as I am, I can not find or think of an undertaking more worthy than yours.

JULIETTE ADAMS,  
*Directrice de la Nouvelle-Revue.*



As one who is thoroughly conversant with the great need for this institution, I wish it every success.

A. D. TOWNSEND, *All Angels Church.*

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It is with the greatest pleasure I seize the opportunity to congratulate you on your good success in securing the support of the American people both financially and morally in establishing your institute of arts and languages in the French capital, which, I hope, will benefit generations to come; and having among its patronesses such a famous person as my countrywoman, Mme. Christine Nilsson, I have no doubt but that it will be patronized by all who want to send their daughters to a "safe home," where they can achieve perfection in their studies.

Hoping that your ardent labor will attain the result it merits, I remain,

Very sincerely, yours,

H. G. MATTON.

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MADAM: So long as it is necessary for Americans to go to Paris to breathe the artistic atmosphere not to be found here, such an institution as the American National Institute will undoubtedly be of great service and comfort to the students.

CLARENCE ANDREWS,  
489 Fifth Avenue,  
*Concerts Operas and Festivals.*

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The plan of Miss Smedley's enterprise for the protection and home for American girls studying in Paris is worthy of the hearty support of all artists, and I cheerfully add my signature to its commendation.

THOMAS B. WOOD,  
*President Academy of Design, New York,*  
*Twenty-third Street and Fourth Avenue.*

Edgard M. Ward indorses the same.

ART STUDENTS' LEAGUE OF NEW YORK,  
215 WEST FIFTY-SEVENTH STREET.

DEAR MADAM: The Art Students' League is glad to add its indorsement to the many you already have for the proposed institute for American women at Paris; and also trusts that the endowment of scholarships for study of art abroad may be a matter of the near future.

Very truly, yours,

HENRY PRELWITZ, *Director.*

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From my own knowledge of student life abroad, I most heartily approve and hope that soon something of the same nature may be started for men.

CHARLES LEE TRACY.

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There is not a place in Paris where a girl can properly be cared for without paying a large price, and even then there is much to be desired. That there is an urgent need of such an institution as you desire to establish is evident to all who have a knowledge of the musical student life.

One of our prominent artists said to me, when speaking to him of your plan, "Our Government ought to aid the artists. They could so easily appropriate a number of thousands of dollars yearly for the benefit of students living abroad, to aid them in their labor, and thereby build up a sure and substantial foundation for art in our own country in the future. The students could work with so much more courage if relieved from a part of the money obligation. As you propose to arrange your work, the unpleasant burden of charity is removed from it, and the place, when established, made self-supporting."

Whether by Government or private individuals, I trust that your work will receive speedy recognition, and success crown all your efforts. They are assuredly in the right direction.

Most sincerely, etc.,

H. C. HIBBARD.

14 EAST THIRTY-EIGHTH STREET,  
New York, May 18, 1896.

MY DEAR MADAM: The plan of the American National Institute in Paris as you have explained it to me is full of interest and promise. So many of the young men and women of America are attracted to France every year by their desire to pursue the study of art that it has become very desirable to provide them with wise guidance and direction. A council of experienced persons, carefully selected, not only with regard to their knowledge of art, but also with regard to their character and knowledge of life, could certainly give most valuable advice and help to young art students, and keep them from making some of the mistakes which are natural to youth and inexperience.

I trust that your efforts will have the success that they deserve, and hope that your plan will turn out to be the means of accomplishing a great and real good.

Very sincerely, yours,

HENRY VAN DYKE, D. D.

NEW YORK, January 21, 1896.

Before leaving New York for Madrid, in the interest of art, I read with much pleasure in the columns of the New York World the success which has crowned the worthy endeavors of Miss Mathilde Smedley in behalf of American students.

Knowing the privations of student life as I do, I know that too much assistance and consideration can not be given to further her efforts. She has grasped the situation, and her scheme will master its difficulties. All persons interested in the earnest student, forced to cultivate talents for a livelihood, should join in bringing to a speedy realization the great work so looked forward to, so ardently desired by the students themselves.

WM. M. CHASE.

PARIS, HOTEL CONTINENTAL.

I want you to look into the case of some American girls who are living at —, rue —, that were brought over from America by a sort of clergyman, he having taken money from their parents for their education, etc. This story was related to me by Miss Lee, a cousin of one of the girls. Of the particulars I, of course, know nothing more than has been told me; but some urgent and energetic means should be taken, and it is a case in which you could easily give a helping hand by taking them off to your home. Will you come to see me at the hotel if you have a moment's time?

Yours, very sincerely,

The honorable Mrs. SPENCER COWPER.

Having spent many years as a vocal student in Paris, Milan, and the capital cities of Germany, no one can appreciate more fully than myself the necessity of just such a home and protection for American girls, who up to the present time have to endure privations and annoyances which can only be fully realized by those who have shared them.

Wishing you all success, believe me, yours sincerely,

LILLIE BERG.

I commend the work most heartily to all interested in the education of youth.

MARY L. DEY.

DECEMBER 29, 1896.

You may rest assured that I will in every way encourage and assist you in the task you have undertaken.

ALEX. S. WEBB,  
President New York College.

NEW YORK.

DEAR MADAM: I am very much interested in your project to form headquarters in Paris for American women wishing to study there. Many scholars from the Woman's Art School go abroad from year to year, and it is a subject of anxiety to them and myself that they should be positively and agreeably situated in a city where they are strangers, and whose civilization is different from our own.

Wishing you all success in what seems to me a noble and most useful undertaking, I remain,

Yours, sincerely,

SUSAN NICHOLAS CARTER,  
*Principal Woman's Art School, Cooper Union.*

During my recent visit to Paris I was forcibly reminded of the need of such a place for art students as you propose to provide, and I heartily hope it will prove a success. Yours is a noble work—one that should certainly appeal to all lovers of art and literature and Americans in every land. With all good wishes, I remain,

Yours for art and American girls,

WILLIAM LAURENCE CHITTENDEN,  
*"Poet Ranchman of Texas."*

This undertaking demands the approval and support of every loyal American.

ELIZABETH B. BORST.

NEW YORK, 1895.

By examining the way in which you intend to bring about such a great work, you can be sure in advance that everybody who is interested in art will be disposed to help you in your enterprise, which indeed has been desired for a long time.

I have often seen how much difficulty young foreign art students in this great metropolis have had to find a convenient pension or a modest hotel to stop at during their study time. Not only have they lost time and money, but neglected entirely their mission to Paris. I have seen cases when young American students had to go back to their country without having accomplished what they came for.

There are other important facts that have occurred in cases when the parents had sudden losses in their fortune, and the young student had to stop what was the beginning of a glorious career.

But for all these cases the plan of your institute (Prix de Paris) provides. There is not only in view the moral support and chaperonage, but also the material in cases of necessity.

Once more I beg you to accept my warm congratulations for a perfect success.

Yours, truly,

HENRI VON DAUR.

NEW YORK CITY, 1895.

I very heartily indorse this project and hope it will be pursued to completion. I know of no better work in the interest of humanity and art.

GEO. HEPPWORTH.

ASSOCIATE ALUMNÆ, NORMAL COLLEGE, NEW YORK CITY.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I listened to your account of your work with the greatest interest. It seems to me that you are filling a long-felt want in making it possible for our talented young women to continue their studies in Europe at a minimum expense, and with a maximum expense, of home comforts.

I feel that your proposed house in Paris will make it much simpler for women to carry on post-graduate work abroad, and that many will gladly avail themselves of the advantages and safeguards it will offer. I hope to bring the subject before the associate alumnae of the Normal College, and I think that your work will appeal to them very strongly.

With most cordial wishes for the speedy success of your plans, I am, very sincerely, yours,

ALICE R. NOETHROP,  
*President of the Associate Alumnae.*

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M. Van Ingen, professor of art in this college, has been speaking to me of your talk last week in Poughkeepsie, and of the interest and importance of the work you have undertaken. We both feel that we should personally enjoy hearing you speak at the college, and that many of our professors and students would be glad to avail themselves of the opportunity of hearing you.

Could you conveniently speak here Tuesday, May 21, or Friday, May 24, at a quarter of 5? I shall be glad to place my parlor at your service, and hope you will dine with us at 6 o'clock.

I am, my dear Miss Smedley, very sincerely, yours,

GEORGIA O. HENDRICK,  
*Lady Principal, Vassar College.*

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With the best of available teachers for those who understand that serious and continuous study is the only road to success, and for those who have by their work already proved to be worthy of the serious intentions of those masters this plan well sustained, properly managed, will certainly prove a success.

Yours, respectfully,

K. VAN ELTEN.

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NEW YORK, 1895.

I am only too happy to have the privilege of indorsing your enterprise of establishing an institution in Paris for American girl art students. I will, of course, be glad to do all that is in my power to help you.

Your indorsement of so many Frenchmen of standing, as well as by distinguished Americans now residing in Paris, would seem a positive proof of the need of such an institution as you propose to build.

I am, respectfully, yours,

FREDERICK D. GRANT,  
*Colonel, U. S. Army.*

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NEW YORK.

From such information as I have obtained concerning the proposed institution I am disposed to believe that it will supply a much-needed safeguard for American girls who purpose entering the student life of Paris, and I, therefore, take pleasure in adding my name in commendation of the project.

S. G. POTTS,  
*Music Editor of The Churchman.*

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PARIS.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Are you not going to start some enterprise in connection with your original plan? I hope so, because you are certainly fitted for such a work, and that thought alone interested me in it and made me solicit a collection. Come and tell me about it when you have a leisure moment.

BARONNE SEILLIÈRE.

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NEW YORK CITY, March 2, 1895.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am very glad to hear that you are progressing so well with your plans for the American National Institute in Paris. Having lived abroad myself, I know some of the difficulties which beset young American students in France as well as other countries.

I sincerely hope that you will be successful in your efforts to collect the necessary money to erect the building and establish the home, which must prove such a benefit to those for whom it is intended.

Very truly, yours,

HANFORD CRAWFORD.

NEW YORK, June 10, 1896.

When we send forth some of our best women, and especially to that section of Europe which every true American loves, "beautiful France," we say godspeed, do your best, and come back quickly. Miss Smedley has been known to me for years. Her acts are convictions and her work God directed. Her mission abroad is a noble one.

W. A. A. GARDNER,  
*Rector Church of the Holy Comforter.*

PARIS.

It gives me much pleasure to see you so successful in this truly grand work, and that your noble efforts have been crowned with just merits.

PAUL H. RIERE.

Annie Leary would be glad to see this work accomplished.

I can not too strongly emphasize the need of the institution, as everyone familiar with Paris must do.

W. I.

Accept my best wishes for this grand enterprise.

CARLOTTA DEVIENNES.

489 FIFTH AVENUE,  
New York, September 2, 1896.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am delighted to hear of your project, and to know that at last there will be a safe institution founded on business as well as artistic principles where our young American ladies who are preparing for a professional career will have genuine artistic training, encouragement, and protection.

Please accept my sincere and best wishes for your complete success.

Yours, most sincerely,

L. M. REUBEN.

EVERETT HOUSE, New York.

To succeed in any kind of work one must have a cause. I know of no cause more worthy than yours, and I most heartily predict and hope for your success.

Yours, sincerely,

J. B. POND.

NEW YORK.

Women have ceased to be a curiosity in art, and already occupy so honorable a position as to have for all time done away with ridicule. I sincerely wish you every success.

Yours, respectfully,

W. M. CHASE,  
*Ex-President Art League.*

A most worthy and commendable object.

PIERRE SERAVE MESME, D. D.

I most heartily indorse the movement Miss Smedley has in charge, because women will go to Paris to study art. In consequence many are plunged into

misery, and such an institution may be made a refuge for the strong and a discouragement for the hopelessly incompetent to go there to a fate that ends but in despair.

RUCKSTUHL,  
*Secretary Sculptors' Society.*

I heartily indorse this needed enterprise.

MADISON PETERS, D. D.

51 WEST TENTH STREET,  
*Cornwall-on-Hudson, N. Y., March 16, 1895.*

An excellent plan of an institution that will greatly benefit American students studying in Paris.

C. J. WRIGHT,  
*President New York Military Academy.*

NEW YORK.

The establishment which you have undertaken to organize in Paris for the benefit of young American women who go abroad to study art, as outlined to me, is upon such a broad and comprehensive plan that I doubt not it will meet universal approval.

I trust you may realize your fondest expectations.

Very sincerely,

JOSEPH J. LITTLE, *Publisher.*

NEW YORK.

According to the wish you expressed when you called yesterday, I am too happy to write you that I can not but approve of your views concerning the opening in Paris of an institute for young persons desirous of studying in France arts, sciences, literature, under the best direction.

I am sure that our public authorities will do all in their power to make your work a success in giving you and the students in your care any special facilities that would make the stay of young Americans in our country as profitable as possible. As to me, you may be assured that I shall not fail to commend your work to my people, being satisfied that your idea, if carried out as it is, will be full of promises for connections more friendly, more cordial, more intimate than ever, between two great nations, so alike in their aspirations, institutions, and destinies.

With my best wishes for the success and the execution of your enterprise, I have the honor to remain, dear Miss Smedley,

Yours, most respectfully,

ED. BRUWAERT.  
*Consul-General of France, New York.*

L'idée que vous avez eue est excellente, et je ne puis que faire des vœux pour le développement et le succès de votre œuvre. Je vous adresse mes respectueux hommages.

ANTONY RATIER.  
*Sénateur, Membre du Comité.*

AMBASSADE DE FRANCE AUX ETATS-UNIS,  
*Washington, D. C., April 9, 1896.*

DEAR MADAM : I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter referring to the creation in Paris of an American Institute, in which your countrywomen may study and cultivate the liberal arts.

I read with interest the various documents you were kind enough to send me on that occasion and I beg you to accept my thanks for your communication.

An undertaking such as yours commends itself to all lovers of art, and I have no doubt you will find encouragement and help from the French masters when you apply to them for the realization of your programme. Wishing you the best success for your enterprise, I beg of you to believe me, dear madam,

Respectfully, yours,

PATENOTRE.

PARIS, *January 22, 1896.*

I need hardly assure you of the great interest I take in your work. I have already placed my services entirely at your disposition, and I will devote my best efforts to the furtherance of your great plans. I think I am better placed than any other to appreciate the immense benefit that such an institution as you propose will be to students in Paris. It has been my sad experience as a lawyer and counsel to witness so many instances of swindling and sometimes worse treatment practiced on young and inexperienced Americans in Paris by boarding-house keepers that I have often wondered how they could be best protected. You have solved the problem.

I sincerely trust that you will be able to enlist as many sympathies in the United States as you have in Paris, and I look forward with confidence to the day when the cornerstone of the American National Institute, *Prix de Paris*, will be laid.

Please accept my heartiest wishes, and believe me to be faithfully yours,

ARNAUD DE FOIARD.

What a boon such an institute will be for the hundreds of American girls and women who annually flock to Paris for study in the great schools of art, music, and science. I could bear ample testimony too often drawn from personal acquaintance with sad cases where such students have suffered or quite come to grief for lack of the very aid and comfort it is here proposed to furnish. The students are young, ambitious, inexperienced; few of them financially independent or morally self-reliant have the sense of being able to protect themselves in a great foreign city like Paris. May the institute win at the outset the assured success it deserves.

MRS. FRANK LESLIE.

DEAR MADAM: I have read with much gratification the prospectus of the Paris Institute for American Lady Students. The proposition to establish an institute, as it were, in that city where the unprotected and inexperienced young females who visit Paris to study the different arts may find guardianship for their womanly integrity as well as for the development of their artistic talents, seems to me of the highest importance and I am glad of an opportunity to express my hearty indorsement of the enterprise.

W. H. BEARD, N. A.  
CARRIE L. C. BEARD.

NEW YORK CITY, *June 29, 1896.*

Too often our students, left alone in a foreign capital, seek in vain for uplifters and friendships, and return to America skilled in their art, but with the loss of high ethical and spiritual ideas.

I have to-day dear friends studying in Paris, for whom I am often anxious lest their very success should involve a heavy sacrifice and the "better" should become the enemy of the "best." Those whose study is chiefly in the realm of art need especially the help of a strong Christian atmosphere.

The high aim of your work and the extraordinary list both of artists and philanthropists who have promised to aid make me send you my best wishes that your scheme may find large and speedy realization.

Sincerely, yours,

W. H. FAUNCE, D. D.,  
Baptist Church.

I have read the prospectus of the Paris Institute for American lady students, and believe it of much importance to our young countrywomen that the scheme should be consummated.

JOSEPH JEFFERSON, Actor.

APRIL 12, 1895.

I can not too strongly emphasize the need of the Institute, as everyone familiar with Paris must know.

S. AUGUSTA PIERSON.

NEW YORK CITY.

The need of such an institution has long been felt by students in Paris.

W. A. BARING, *Architect*.

In an article of the *Musical Courier*, July 22, 1893, Mr. Grau, the great impresario, says the real stuff gets to the top by beginning at the bottom. "Paris is headquarters, so called 'holy see,' of the singing cult."

Colonel Mapleson, jr., is a man of different temperament and outlook from Mr. Grau. It will be interesting to see what he has to say to help the girls.

FANNY EDGAR THOMAS.

It gives me much pleasure to hear of your success in interesting President Low and Professor Ware. They will be most wise and judicious counselors in shaping your plan to a practical, useful, and successful end; and if they will aid in directing the matter in the first instance I doubt not they will give it their support and influence in later development.

With best wishes, very sincerely, yours,

EDW. MITCHELL.

For some years we have needed an Institute for American students not only in Paris, but in New York.

M. CLEMENTINE SMEDLEY.

NEW YORK.

It is with delight I read your circular, and I am sure your grand efforts in so noble a cause will bring the great undertaking to a most successful issue. I will try in my small way to help with a few "bricks."

I am sincerely, yours,

ELLEN E. FLEMING.

PARIS.

Mrs. A. and others have done much to aid and protect them, but their work has not extended into the large plan. An Institute where they can stay on the smallest possible terms, where their artistic life will not be trammelled by petty regulations, where the French language will be practiced—and, above all, where your kind and genial influence will give them a protection against impositions that they now often suffer from.

With Mrs. Walden Pell as the earliest friend of your project, your success is assured. I will do all I can do to aid you. It seems to me true, as you say, that "God is with you."

Sincerely, etc.,

THERESA VIELE.

The grand order of the Chefekat, decoration, bestowed by His Majesty the Sultan of Turkey for a paper on Turkey, read at the literary congress at the World's Fair at Chicago.

I can earnestly recommend this enterprise.

MELVILLE COOPER.

It will meet a great need of American women who desire to study the liberal arts abroad.

EDWARD GASTINIAN.



LONDON.

I have read many times of the crowded quarters of the girl students in that great city, and will be ready to lend a hand to the work when you visit our coast. If you come to London next month I should be so glad to know you better and learn of your great life work.

Our London address is

MRS. WM. S. EDWARDS,  
Care of S. K. Manufacturing Company (Limited),  
Broad Street House.

Excellent protection for teacher and scholar. My very best wishes for success.

THEODOR BJORKSTEN.

I am sure your grand efforts in so noble a cause will bring the great undertaking to a most successful issue.

248 FIFTH AVENUE.

ELLEN R. HERNING.

I heartily approve of the enterprise.

A. L. SYPHER.

You are now on the right road to success. The situation could not be better, and the building will be a model institution if plans are carried out. But pupils must be made worthy of admission through examinations.

THE BERKELEY LYCEUM.

SARGENT.

I trust you will meet with a hearty response from all our people.

C. W. KRAUSHAAR.

AMERICAN AND FOREIGN TEACHERS' AGENCY,  
23 Union Square, New York City.

Nothing is more needed than just such a home and institution in Paris.

MME. FULLERTON.

A noble scheme, with a noble motive, worthy the moral and financial support of every man who has a sister, daughter, or friend inclined toward the advancement of art.

JAMES CLARENCE HARVEY.

The plan suggested by Miss Smedley of assisting female art students in Paris, providing not only for their advancement in studies, but for proper institute accommodations and influences, must meet the approval of everyone. With a good organization and an accomplished executive leader the work must be successful.

HENRY GARDNER.

I consider it my duty to express my deep sympathy as regards the institute in Paris, embodying Miss Smedley's courage. As a natural result, the deep and cordial friendship between the United States and France will be vastly augmented and more than ever cultivated.

T. V. RAFFAELLI.

DEAR MADAM: I am pleased to hear of the establishment of the Paris Institute, and wish herewith to express my hearty approval of the good work.

Respectfully,

SOPHIE L. M. PELL,  
*Contralto of Holy Trinity Church, Harlem.*

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It seems to me that the scheme and purpose of the National American Institute at Paris are, as I understand them, excellent, and that its success is in every way desirable.

W. D. HOWELLS.

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It is the duty of every American woman who is interested in the arts, or who in the future may be called upon to part with her own daughter to a chosen career, to acquaint herself with the surroundings of student life abroad, and to encourage and promote the means by which its difficulties may be overcome.

RATCLIFFE COPERTON,  
*Representative of Lamperti.*

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The consummation of your project will be a divine blessing to those whose privilege it is to be under its fostering care.

WILLIAM SMEDLEY,  
*Choir Master All Angels.*

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PARIS, December, 1896.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: It has given me much satisfaction to hear of your success in securing the interest of so many well-known practical philanthropists in the work you have undertaken for the girls of our country. Your work is a truly valuable one, as it will give direction to those who need to pursue their studies here so that they will come prepared to get the best that is to be had; and what is even more important, they will be so comfortably provided for that they will not be obliged to abandon their studies on account of ill health caused by the privation from which many suffer. Command me if my experience will be of any value, with best wishes believe me,

Very sincerely,

L. M. MCGINNIS.

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I heartily indorse the foregoing letter of Mrs. McGinnis relative to Miss Smedley's work in Paris.

SOPHIE J. SYMS, of Denver, Colo.

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I have carefully inquired into the aims and objects of the Paris Institute for young ladies, and can not but testify to my delight that such an institution has been founded, and know it will prove a benefit to many worthy artists.

Yours, sincerely,

WILLIAM HENRY HAMISTON,  
*Organist and Director Lake Forest Presbyterian Church.*

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I will most cheerfully render any assistance I can to further this cause, believing that we have great talent here which, by the aid of wise counsel and friendly help, may be used in the right direction.

ELIZABETH JOHNSON, M. D.

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NEW JERSEY.

It seems to me that it is an object which should secure for itself the good will and wishes of all who realize the importance of the field which it proposes to occupy.

ROBERT S. RUDD.

An Institution which many students in the past have felt the need of.

WILLIAM T. SMEDLEY.

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I am in sympathy with your work.  
Yours, respectfully,

E. C. W. DIETRICH, *Architect.*

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I think our American home life in its best phases is delightful, and a little of it to worthy young women in Paris will be a godsend to them. The institute you propose will consummate a worthy object.

OLIVER O. HOWARD, *General, U. S. Army.*

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I very heartily commend the purpose of this undertaking, and look confidently to its successful accomplishment.

GEO. S. MALORY,  
*Editor of the Churchman, New York City.*

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PARIS.

I was delighted to hear from our mutual friend that your plan of opening a house here in Paris for the reception of young American girls who come here to study is prospering so well, and I am quite grateful to Mrs. Walden Pell for giving you so much help in your project. I knew I was putting you under very powerful protection when I presented you to her, as she is a large-hearted woman, who, with so many others, would understand the necessity for such a house as you propose opening here, and, indeed, no one better than myself could understand what absolute want of such an institution there is in Paris; for, in my quality of professor of singing, I see so many beautiful voices spoiled, so many young girls led into so many extravagances and follies, just for the mere want of a guiding voice and protecting arms stretched out to them, and American mothers would do well, before allowing their daughters to come to this brilliant, seductive Paris, to find their girls some safe home and some motherly, Christian superintendence to which to confide them, and I should think you would be especially adapted for this task, and that girls confided to your care might count themselves very, very fortunate.

Wishing you every success in your enterprise, I am, etc.,

CLARICE ZISKA.

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9, RUE TRAKTIR, 1<sup>er</sup> décembre 1896.

Knowing your work to be a great necessity, I am happy to become an annual subscriber.

S. BENSUADE.

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J'approuve l'œuvre de Miss Smedley à laquelle je souhaite le meilleur succès.

LÉON CLÉRY,

*Avocat à la Cour d'appel, Membre du comité.*

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Je serai heureux de pouvoir adresser ma petite contribution à la Bibliothèque de l'Institut national américain.

CHARLES RICHEL,

*Professeur à la Faculté de médecine, Membre du comité.*

24 DÉCEMBRE 1894.

J'approuve hautement la fondation d'un "American Institute for women" à Paris, et j'adresse mes plus vives félicitations aux fondateurs.

CAMILLE FLAMMARION, I. C.,  
*Membre honoraire du comité.*

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Avec le plus vif élan j'unis mes sentiments pour la réussite de la merveilleuse fondation de Miss Smedley.

MME. CAMILLE FLAMMARION,  
*Officier de l'Instruction publique.*

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Sympathique à l'œuvre de l'Institut américain pour les jeunes filles.

WILLIAM BOUGUEREAU, C.,  
*Membre de l'Institut, président de l'Association  
des artistes peintres, sculpteurs, architectes  
graveurs et dessinateurs.*

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J'approuve chaleureusement l'intention prise par Miss Smedley et j'ai l'honneur de la assurer de mon dévouement.

YVES GUYOT,  
*Ancien ministre, Directeur politique du Siècle.*

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J'approuve chaudement l'œuvre de Miss Smedley, si propre à servir la cause de la civilisation et à reserrer les liens entre la République française et la République des Etats-Unis.

JOSEPH FABRE,  
*Sénateur de l'Aveyron.*

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1894.

Avec sa sympathie et son approbation pour l'Institut du Prix de Paris de Miss Smedley.

EDOUARD SCHURÉ.

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Tous mes vœux pour le succès de la fondation d'un prix de Paris.

MADAME BLANC (THÉODORE BENTZON).

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Je signe de tout cœur pour

PAUL BOURGET, O.,  
*Membre de l'Institut.*

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Avec ma vive sympathie.

GEORGES BOYER,  
*Secrétaire général de l'Académie nationale de musique.*

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1894.

With my deepest sympathy for the work undertaken by Miss Smedley.

ALEXANDRE HARRISON.

6 DÉCEMBRE 1896.

Je joins mes vœux à ceux des amis de l'Institut national américain pour lui témoigner mon désir de voir cette utile création se fonder et s'installer à Paris.

L. PERIGNO.

The idea of an Institute for American girl students in Paris is one that has always greatly interested me, and I cordially indorse this effort to put it into execution.

KATHARINE DE FOREST.

I thoroughly approve of this much-needed institution in France, and from an experience of many years' residence in Paris realize this great need of a well-organized home for self-supporting women.

EFFIE MACKENZIE EVANS,  
49, Avenue de l'Opéra, Paris.

Comme femme et comme lectrice, je ne puis trouver une œuvre plus passionnante que celle-ci. Je signe pour mon fils adoptif—Pierre Loti.

JULIETTE ADAM,  
Directrice de la Nouvelle Revue.

1896.

Je suis de tout cœur pour la réussite de ce grand projet.

J. HOLLMAN.

Je suis trop heureux d'apporter mon modeste concours à cette grande œuvre et j'inscris mon nom de grand cœur.

LAURENT, *De l'Opéra.*

Je trouve admirablement belle l'œuvre projetée à tous les points de vue et c'est du meilleur de mon cœur que j'ose joindre ma signature à celles de tant d'éminents personnages.

J. BAISSAC.

Je promets de donner un concert avec mes élèves au bénéfice de l'Institut, et de faire une diminution de prix aux élèves de l'Institut.

ANNA DE LA GRANGE.

Je promets de donner des leçons aux élèves de l'Institut à une réduction de prix.

E. DELLESEDE.

1895.

I am so glad that Miss Smedley has had the courage to undertake the hard task of establishing a national institute in Paris for American students. I have felt all through my artistic experience the great necessity of such a stepping-stone for débutantes. I will do everything in my power for the welfare of this institution. To begin with, I will give lessons at half price to the students of the institute. If the mothers of America could realize what this work means to their daughters they would strain every nerve for its success. The sooner it is done the better.

PAULE GAYBARD PACINI,  
Officier d'Académie, teacher to their  
Highnesses the Princesses Louise, Victoria,  
and Maud of Wales for ten years.

4th NOVEMBER, 1896.

All my best wishes for the success of the institute. I shall give a picture with great pleasure.

FRANK HOLMAN.

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I heartily approve of your scheme, believing it will be a great benefit to art.

WALTER MACEWEN.

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PARIS, 1894.

Cette œuvre en vue d'un prix de Paris pour les artistes américaines a toute ma sympathie. J'espère que cet effort sera couronné de succès et donnera à notre chère Amérique de grandes artistes.

ALEXANDRE WEILL.  
ZADOC KAHN,  
*Grand Rabbî de France.*

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Bien des vœux pour cette grande et belle œuvre.

AUGUSTE DECOFFET, D. D.,  
*Pasteur, président du conseil presbytéral de l'Oratoire.*

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Je trouve l'idée de créer un conservatoire américain à Paris est très bonne et je fais des vœux pour la réussite de cette entreprise qui sera très utile pour l'enseignement de l'art musical.

ALEX. GUILMANT.

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1894.

De tout cœur, toute mon approbation à l'œuvre de Miss Smedley.

JACQUES BOUGHY.  
FRÉDÉRIC LE REY,  
*Officier d'Académie,  
Compositeur de musique, rédacteur musical.*  
M<sup>me</sup> J.-B. BILLA-MANOTTE,  
*1<sup>er</sup> prix du Conservatoire de Paris.*

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PARIS, October 27, 1896.

I am delighted to see the success Miss Smedley has met with in this most useful work. I appreciate what this work means to America.

I shall be most happy to contribute a small picture, not to be sold except at price fixed by the artist. Picture to be delivered within six months from this date.

JULIUS STEWART.

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PARIS, October 28, 1896.

It will give me pleasure to contribute a small picture to the good cause in which Miss Smedley has interested us all—the picture, like others, will be delivered in six months and to be held at a price fixed by the painter.

E. L. WEEKS.

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7 PLACE DES ETATS-UNIS,  
October 28, 1896.

The American National Institute will, I think, be of the greatest benefit to American girls studying in Paris, and I am glad to do what I can to forward its interests.

EMMA EAMES STORY.

I shall be very happy to be of service to Miss Smedley in her undertaking.

JOHN W. ALEXANDER.

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Tous mes vœux pour l'Institut national américain.

G. SERIGLIA.

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It gave me great pleasure to hear of the remarkable growth of what seems to be a near reality, the American National Institute.

Mrs. JAMES JACKSON.

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Tous mes vœux pour l'Institut américain. Je promets mon concours à cette belle œuvre et je me joindrai à tous mes collègues aux mêmes conditions.

FIDÈLE KENIG,  
*Chef de chant à l'Opéra.*  
MADAME KENIG,

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En raison du très grand intérêt qu'offre la création à Paris d'une institution d'art spécialement affectée aux jeunes filles américaines, je consens exceptionnellement à me déranger, ce que je ne fais jamais, pour faire un cours dans l'institution qu j'instruirai dans l'art du chant trois fois par semaine pendant une heure et demie chaque fois. Maintenant, en ce qui concerne les leçons particulières prises chez moi, je veux bien encore faire une dérogation à mes prix habituels pour les élèves de l'Institut seulement.

MARGUERITE YVELING RAMBAUD (née de Barral).

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Je promets mon concours à l'Institut national Américain aux conditions stipulées par le comité.

J. DE PICCIOTTO.

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LE 18 NOVEMBRE 1895.

MADAME: Je vous ai écrit l'autre jour pour vous remander des renseignements supplémentaires au sujet de votre lettre; ou, ces renseignements, je viens de les avoir par notre ami Benjamin Constant, et je puis, dès maintenant, vous dire que j'accepte avec plaisir de faire partie du conseil formé en vue d'établir l'Institut national Américain dont vous vous occupez.

Agrées, Madame, l'assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée.

VIRGINIE DEMONT-BRETON,  
*Prés. de la Société des femmes artistes, membre du comité.*

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J'approuve de cœur cette formation de Société.

ROSA BONHEUR, O.

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Je trouve des plus heureuses l'idée d'établir à Paris un institut de jeunes filles américaines et je forme les vœux les plus sincères pour la réussite de l'entreprise.

H. ROUJON, O.,  
*Directeur des beaux-arts.*

Cette institution se recommande aux sympathies de tous les Franco-Américains.

HENRY VIGNAUD,  
*Premier secrétaire de l'ambassade des Etats-Unis d'Amérique.*

PARIS, 1896.

Je suis heureux de pouvoir me joindre à mes collègues et j'approuve cette idée, inspirée par les plus nobles sentiments. Au moment venu je donnerai une petite esquisse.

J.-P. LAURENS,  
*Membre de l'institut, O.*

Le noble but de Mlle. Smedley mérite les plus vives sympathies et je lui adresse toutes mes félicitations avec mes meilleurs souhaits.

BARTHOLDI, C.

PARIS, November 27, 1896.

I fully approve of the noble undertaking and wish it success with all my heart.

ALEXANDRA GRIFFENBERGS,  
*President of the Finnish Women's Association, Helsingfors, Finland.*

Très flatté de pouvoir mettre mon nom à côté de ceux qui encouragent la nouvelle société. J'enverrai un plâtre pour la galerie.

RODIN,  
*Membre honoraire du comité.*

L'Institut national a toutes mes sympathies. Je serai toujours prêt à l'aider et au besoin à le défendre. Je réserve pour la galerie de l'Institut national soit un dessin, soit une peinture de moi.

CHARTEAN, G.

Je serai très heureux de voir réussir cette grande œuvre de l'Institut national américain et lui adresse de tout cœur mes vœux de succès. Je promets ou un dessin ou une étude modelée pour la galerie de l'Institut.

H. ALLOUARD.

PARIS, le 30 octobre 1896.

Tous mes vœux pour l'Institut national, et ma promesse d'une petite étude signée.

BENJAMIN CONSTANT, O.,  
*Membre de l'Institut, membre honoraire du comité.*

PARIS, 4 novembre 1896.

Tous mes vœux et toute ma sympathie sont acquis à l'Institut national américain, auquel j'offrirai volontiers une étude ou un dessin.

R. COLLIN.

De tout cœur et de sentiments à l'idée grandiose et unique.  
Heureuse d'apporter un fragment d'une de mes pages impressionnistes.

JULIA BECK.

PARIS, le 7 novembre 1896.

Tout ce qu'on fait pour la jeunesse, je suis prêt à l'encourager non seulement de mes vœux, mais d'un appui effectif. Cette institution parfaite dans son



esprit peut, en ouvrant l'avenir et en le facilitant aux jeunes filles, rendre un grand service non seulement à elles, mais à leur pays. Aussi j'y souscris de tout cœur et je donnerai une étude pour leur collection.

CAROLUS DURAN, C.,  
Vice-président de la Société nationale, Champ-de-Mars,  
Membre honoraire du comité.

Je suis très heureux de prêter mon concours dans un concert pour l'institution artistique américaine et je souhaite le plus grand succès à cette œuvre si intéressante.

L. BREITNER, I.

Puisse le génie de Beethoven, Meistersinger par excellence du monde entier, consacrer la maison aux plus hautes œuvres de son art divin.

GUSTAVE GOTTHIEL,  
Rabbin du Temple Emmanuel.

Vous savez bien que vous avez toute ma sympathie et la promesse de tout mon concours.

G. DE MORSIER,  
Membre du conseil de la Société française d'arbitrage,  
Membre honoraire du comité.

CHÂTEAU DE CASQUEIRANNE, HYÈRES,  
25 octobre 1896.

CHÈRE MADEMOISELLE : J'ai bien du regret d'être si loin et de ne pouvoir vous rendre visite.

Où, certes, j'accepte d'être membre honoraire de votre utile entreprise, non seulement parce qu'elle est bonne et belle, mais enfin en souvenir de notre chère et vaillante amie Emilie de Morsier que vous n'avez pas retrouvée, hélas ! lorsque vous êtes revenue en France.

Je vous fais envoyer aussi, comme vous en avez témoigné le désir, quelques exemplaires de la Revue scientifique.

Croyez-moi, je vous prie, votre très respectueux admirateur et serviteur.

CHARLES RICHEL,  
Professeur de la Faculté de médecine, membre du comité.

Je suis heureux de vous exprimer tous mes vœux en faveur de l'Institut national américain qui se fonde.

EDOUARD DETAILLE,  
Membre de l'Institut, O.

1<sup>er</sup> JANVIER 1895.

M. et Mme Mounet-Sully, charmés de l'idée de Miss Smedley, y applaudissent du meilleur de leur cœur et tous leurs vœux bien sincères pour la réussite définitive.

MOUNET-SULLY.

Tous mes vœux, tous mes souhaits.

BONNAT, C.,  
Membre de l'Institut.

Faire le bien—et le bien faire, c'est-à-dire être à la fois bon et utile. Telle est la pensée qui a guidé les fondateurs de cette œuvre. J'y applaudis des deux mains, et j'offre avec grand plaisir mes œuvres à la bibliothèque de l'Institut national américain.

FRANÇOIS COPPÉE, C.,  
Membre de l'Institut, membre honoraire du comité.

Je m'associe de tout cœur aux sentiments exprimés par mon ami Coppée à l'égard de l'Institut national américain et je fais à cette belle fondation la même offre que lui.

SULLY PRUD'HOMME, G.,  
*Membre de l'Institut, membre honoraire du comité.*

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Et moi aussi, mon cher Sully Prud'homme et mon cher Coppée.

JEAN AICARD.

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Je m'associe à mes amis pour les vœux en faveur du comité et pour en faire partie.

PAUL DUBOIS, G. C.  
*Membre de l'Institut, directeur de l'École des beaux-arts,  
Membre honoraire du comité.*

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J'exprime ma plus complète et dévouée admiration aux fondateurs de cette œuvre artistique, nécessaire et absolument bienfaisante. Elle est digne du grand peuple qui l'aura voulue. Si ma présence à Paris me le permet, je me joindrai aux organisateurs de la prochaine fête musicale de l'Institut national de l'Amérique (Prix de Paris).

MASSENET, C.,  
*Membre de l'Institut, membre honoraire du comité.*

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Hélas! ainsi que l'illustre maître, auprès duquel je suis très honorée de me trouver, je ne puis dire que ceci: si ma santé me le permet, au retour de la campagne si fatigante que je vais entreprendre, je chanterai à mon retour d'Amérique pour l'œuvre si intéressante.

EMMA CALVÉ.

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PARIS, 7 novembre 1896.

Je m'associe bien volontiers à l'œuvre de l'Institut national américain et j'applaudis de grand cœur aux efforts artistiques des fondateurs.

TH. DUBOIS, O.,  
*Membre de l'Institut, directeur du Conservatoire,  
Membre honoraire du comité du conseil de l'Institut national américain.*

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3 NOVEMBRE 1896.

Je suis très honoré de faire partie du conseil de l'Institut national américain. Tous mes souhaits les meilleurs lui sont acquis.

J'aurai grand plaisir à offrir à l'Institut une peinture signée de moi.

P. PUVIS DE CHAVANNES, C.,  
*Membre honoraire du comité.*

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Je suis toujours de l'avis de mon cher maître, mais cette fois plus que jamais. Cependant je prouverai mieux ma vive sympathie à l'Institut en donnant à sa bibliothèque les œuvres de mon père, le pain de l'esprit.

ARY RENAN.

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31 WEST SEVENTY-SECOND STREET, NEW YORK,  
*Mardi de Pâques, 1895.*

Je considère l'entreprise de Miss Smedley comme une grande œuvre et comme une nécessité de notre siècle.

CHAS. FRANK HOFFMANN, D. D., LL. D., D. C. L.

Je m'intéresse beaucoup à votre œuvre, l'estimant comme un grand pas en avant dans l'enseignement.

LOUIS C. TIFFANY.

L'œuvre que Miss Smedley se propose de mettre en exécution est d'un grand mérite et d'une haute utilité.

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW, LL. D.,  
*Chairman Executive Committee.*

NEW YORK.

If you can only place this institution on a footing which will make it an independent one, surely our Americans ought to feel it a privilege to be able to say it was founded by an American woman, who, seeing the necessity of such a place, has worked for its best good, and we will do all in our power to help along the good work.

Wishing you bon voyage and a speedy return, I am,

Cordially, yours,

ANNE BULKELEY HILLS.

12 JANVIER 1895.

CHÈRE MISS SMEDLEY : Tous mes vœux vous sont acquis—une telle institution est devenue indispensable !

Les efforts personnels des Américains, joints à ceux des "hommes" déjà créés, pour secourir les jeunes filles venant étudier à Paris, en plus grand nombre chaque jour, sont devenus insuffisants. Sous votre influence, l'Amérique aura réalisé un grand projet, auquel s'associent tous mes amis à Paris, Français et Américains.

Les jeunes étudiantes que la misère et le désespoir ont emportées ou égarées ont été l'inspiration muette de cette belle pensée. Celles, plus prudentes, qui, après de trop courtes études ici, retournent dans leur province pour enseigner ont aussi contribué, sans le savoir, à son éclosion. Parmi toutes ces jeunes filles, que leurs parents, seuls juges jusqu'ici de leur talent, avaient envoyées, pleines d'espoir, à Paris, quelques-unes seulement étalent assez douées pour profiter de leurs études. L'Institut, heureusement, n'acceptera que ces dernières, et il en fera sûrement des artistes capables de rendre des services à leur pays et de contribuer à sa gloire.

En résumé : l'examen éliminatoire de New-York, les bourses pour les étudiantes qui se seront distinguées, les concessions que vous ont consenties les éminents artistes-professeurs de Paris, ainsi que le "family home" que vous créez conjointement avec l'Institut lui-même, permettront aux jeunes filles de toutes conditions, mais les mieux douées, de trouver à l'Institut national américain de Paris, en même temps qu'une éducation artistique complète, les conseils et les soins si nécessaires à des jeunes filles loin de leur foyer. Voilà ce que j'ai vu dans votre œuvre, chère madame, entre autres bienfaits, et ce que j'approuve hautement. Je vous en félicite sincèrement et vous suis très reconnaissant d'avoir pensé à m'y intéresser en inscrivant mon nom parmi ceux des membres du conseil.

Cordialement à vous,

ANITA BOCAGE,  
*Membre honoraire du comité.*

Cette œuvre ne peut que resserrer les liens déjà intimes qui existent entre les deux pays et j'y adhère de grand cœur.

E. DE BONDELL,  
*Sous-directeur du Crédit lyonnais.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY : I am moved to express my sincere admiration for your brave endeavor to establish for American students in Paris a dwelling place, moderate in price, equipped with conveniences necessary for physical comfort and health, and at the same time affording an environment that will encourage moral and mental, as well as artistic growth. To justly appreciate the worth and importance of your undertaking one must have proven, either by observation or personal experience, the urgent need which exists for the protection of students in this and in every great art center. Could this need be

fully realized, the accomplishment of your cherished plan would be of vital importance to every father and mother where son or daughter leaves the shelter of home to remain here alone for study.

The encouraging and most flattering results attending your efforts thus far, dear Miss Smedley, point to a very speedy realization of your hopes that reached, many there will be who will call you "blessed among women."

Faithfully yours,

SARA DE LANDE.

PARIS, 23 octobre 1896.

Je m'associe de tout cœur au projet de l'Institution artistique américain de Mlle. Smedley, œuvre absolument nécessaire à l'éclosion d'un art musical en Amérique.

M. J. MARSICK, O.

J'associe bien volontiers mes vœux à tous ceux qui sont formés pour le succès de l'American National Institute.

EUG. PEREIRE,

*Président de la Compagnie transatlantique.*

Je donnerai mes conseils avec tout le dévouement que vous pouvez en souhaiter.

MADAME FUCHS, O.,

*Officier de l'Instruction publique.*

I send you these few lines to let you know that I am very much pleased to hear that the American National Institute is in progress. I hope that it will prove a great benefit to American students and I will gladly contribute a picture to its art gallery.

L. LEE ROBBINS.

Cette institution me paraît être du plus grand intérêt, et elle a toutes mes sympathies.

BARON ALPHONSE DE ROTHSCHILD, C.

DECEMBER 4.

The American National Institute has all my sympathy. I hope with all my heart that we shall soon have it erected in Paris.

CHRISTINE NILSSON,

*Comtesse de Casa Miranda, Grand cordon d'Espagne,*

*Croix norvégien, Croix Saxe-Cobourg, médailles Suède,*

*Cour d'Autriche.*

31 RUE DE MONCEAU,

Paris 16 novembre 1896.

J'approuve de tout mon cœur le but de cet institut qui me semble appelé à rendre de très grands services, et je fais des vœux pour qu'il se fonde d'une façon définitive.

MADELEINE LEMAIRE,

*Membre fondateur de la Société du Champ-de-Mars, etc..*

*Membre honoraire du comité.*

LE 11 NOVEMBRE 1896.

De toute ma pensée et de tout mon cœur j'applaudis à toutes les œuvres qui tendent à resserrer les liens qui doivent exister entre tous les peuples du monde. Je donnerai un plâtre à la société.

SYAMOUR.

J'aurai grand plaisir à chanter au profit de l'Institut américain à Paris, lorsque M. Seidl donnera son concert.

LILLIAN NORDICA DCMÉ.  
ZALBAN DCMÉ.

26 NOVEMBRE 1896.

Je suis tout acquis à l'œuvre bienfaisante (l'Institut national américain) que se propose d'établir à Paris la grande nation américaine.

Je m'inscris de tout cœur pour offrir à la galerie d'art projetée une étude signée.

J. MACHARD.

Je ne puis qu'applaudir au beau projet qui réussira j'espère. Faciliter les études, les rendre aussi complètes que possible, est une œuvre noble et digne de tous les encouragements.

Je me ferai un plaisir d'offrir une étude pour la galerie de l'Institut.

TONY ROBERT FLEURY, O.

Je joins mes vœux à ceux de mon confrère et ami M. Robert-Fleury.

JULES LEFEBVRE, O.,  
Membre de l'Institut.

28 NOVEMBRE 1896.

Après notre conversation, je crois que l'Institut national américain peut rendre de grands services, et tous mes souhaits pour la réussite de cette œuvre.

Recevez, Mademoiselle, l'expression de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

R. DU MADRAZO, O.

My best wishes for the success of this most excellent project.

I will gladly contribute a small picture, which will be ready in six months.

WALTER GAY.

C'est avec une grande joie que j'aidrai de mon mieux à la réussite de cette institution américaine en France. J'offrirais et avec plaisir une de mes peintures pour son musée, en bon souvenir de mon voyage en Amérique.

J. V. RAFFAELLI.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: In answer to your questions I have no hesitation in saying:

1. That plenty of singers come here who had better stay at home, where there are teachers quite competent enough to teach them, because they do not possess voice and talent enough to make it worth while their coming to Europe.

2. That those who possess fine voices or great musical talent had best come at once to Paris to study, without studying at home first. Teachers always prefer pupils who have not been taught at all to those who have been taught.

3. It is absolutely useless to come here with any idea of singing on the French stage unless pronunciation in French is free from English accent.

4. Your society should use all its influence to do away with the foolish prejudice in America that singers must make their début in Europe before they will accept them at home. On the contrary, let us encourage home talent.

Faithfully, yours,

SEBASTIAN B. SCHLESINGER.

Je m'estimerai très heureux de pouvoir contribuer à l'établissement et à la prospérité de l'Institut national américain.

ALFRED RAMBAUD,  
Ministre de l'Instruction publique et des beaux-arts.

22 NOVEMBRE 1896.

CHÈRE MISS SMEDLEY: Je m'associe avec plaisir à la belle œuvre que vous allez créer.

Bien sincèrement à vous,

PAULINE VIARDOT.  
EL. H. GARCIA.

Je m'associe de grand cœur à cette œuvre si intéressante, et je promets de donner aux élèves que l'institut m'enverra des leçons avec une réduction de moitié sur mes prix ordinaires.

M. BATAILLE.

Ainsi que je vous l'ai dit dans la conversation que nous avons eue ensemble, je serais disposée à faire partie de l'Institut national américain qui va être fondé à Paris, comme professeur de chant, d'opéra et d'opéra-comique. Mon expérience me permet d'affirmer qu'il faut:

Trois années d'études sérieuses pour être capable de chanter pour le répertoire du grand opéra ou de l'opéra-comique.

Deux années d'études sérieuses pour la carrière des concerts.

Dieux années pour la carrière du professorat.

Il faut, en outre, avant de commencer des études vocales sérieuses, que les élèves soient bonnes musiciennes, connaissant bien le solfège, et sachant parler au moins un peu le français.

Je suis tout à votre disposition si d'autres renseignements vous étaient nécessaires en ce qui concerne le chant et son enseignement, afin que vous puissiez réunir tous les éléments nécessaires pour assurer le bon fonctionnement de l'Institut national américain.

Veuillez agréer mademoiselle, l'assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée.

RENÉE RICHARD,  
*De l'opéra, Officier de l'Instruction publique.*

Our sympathies and interests are in this work and we heartily indorse it. We will gladly associate ourselves with a committee to give a concert in our studio for the benefit of the institute.

CHARLES HOLMAN BLACK.

J'espère que Miss Smedley viendra me trouver, si, en quoi que ce soit, je puisse être utile à sa grande œuvre.

ROSE BEECHER COLLINS.

Nous approuvons de tout cœur l'œuvre de Miss Smedley qui rendra beaucoup de services aux artistes.

TEDESCO FRÈRES.

In sympathy with the work for the institution for American students.

CHARLES SPRAGUE PEARCE.

I shall, of course, contribute a picture or artistic production to further such a good cause to which I have already given my support in writing.

F. A. BRIDGMAN.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: If you remember I spoke to you before I left Paris, and you were kind enough to say that I might come to the institute. As the financial question is a very important one to me, will you tell me the price and have you room for me? I shall be very grateful if you will answer as soon as possible as I wish to leave here Friday, go home for several days, and be in Paris the 1st of October.

Sincerely,

ALICE K. SNIDER.

4 RUE DE CHEVREUSE,  
Paris, June 6, 1899.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Being interested in the study of vocal music, would like to ascertain how soon one can begin with the new school over which you will preside?

I have been sent to you from the Brooklyn Eagle bureau, at Paris, by Miss Bullet.

I am informed you have several days at home during the week; would it be convenient for you to talk with me on the subject at such a time?

Respectfully, yours,

LOUISE HOLLIS.

[Forge House, Fulton Chain. N. A. Briggs, proprietor.]

OLD FORGE, N. Y., August 15, 1893.

Miss MATILDA SMEDLEY,

DEAR MADAME: Will you kindly send me a prospectus or particulars about the Paris Conservatoire, which I heard of through Colonel Adams, of New York. I have two nieces who are desirous of studying singing and painting abroad, and I also am anxious to continue my piano studies. An early reply will greatly oblige,

Yours, very truly,

FLORENCE SCHUBERT,  
302 South Thirteenth Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

[Missouri State Library, Jefferson City. Jennie Edwards, librarian.]

OCTOBER 8, 1900.

Miss MATILDA SMEDLEY.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have learned something about the American National Institute in Paris of which you seem to be the director. I would be very grateful for further information and any literature that you might have on the subject. I know of two young ladies who are anxious to know the expense, the lines of instruction, etc.

Most sincerely, yours,

JENNIE EDWARDS.

[Rodman Wanamaker, president; William M. Thorne, vice-president; Herman D. Murphy, treasurer; Nesbit Benson, secretary.]

AMERICAN ART ASSOCIATION, 131 BOULEVARD MONTFARNASSE,  
Paris, November 7, 1896.

DEAR MADAM: Mr. Rodman Wanamaker for the present is out of town, but as soon as he returns I shall communicate with you.

We are very desirous to collect and consolidate all the interest people may have in us—being certain that the money spent on the American Art Association serves a good end.

Respectfully,

NESBIT BENSON, *Secretary*.

[Emerson McMillin, Henry B. Wilson.]

EMERSON McMILLIN & Co., BANKERS,  
40 Wall street, New York, July 14, 1898.

Miss M. SMEDLEY,

Van Dyke Building, 930 Eighth avenue, New York.

DEAR MADAM: I return to you herewith the paper you sent me relating to the establishment of the American National Institute in Paris. I have taken copy of the paper.

I thank you for the privilege, and will do what I can to aid in securing an appropriation from the Government.

Very truly, yours,

EMERSON McMILLIN.

9 RUE DES FOURNEAUX,  
Paris, February 9, 1899.

MISS SMEDLEY: Your idea of a Prix de Paris for our art students from America is just what we have long needed, and certainly all who know of this movement, as far as I have talked with them since your successful meeting of Saturday evening, are perfectly delighted with the idea, and are very enthusiastic over the thought that some one has taken up the cause on behalf of the American art student in Paris.

Yours, sincerely,

CARL F. SMITH.

PARIS, March 22.

MISS SMEDLEY: I am pleased to learn that you have not only seen the difficulties the American art students have to contend with in Paris, but that you have actually taken steps in the right direction in organizing a much-needed institution that will in every way meet the wants of those who come here for study, and more especially those with limited means, and am convinced, from the little observation I have made during fifteen years' residence in Paris, that such an institution could not fail to prove a great blessing and a credit to any Christian country.

Very sincerely, etc.,

Dr. J. J. RYAN.

PARIS, January 22, 1895.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: The idea of a "Prize of Paris" for Americans, corresponding with the "Prix de Rome" for French art students, is not a new one of to-day. For years I have thought of it, as well as others, but the great thing now is to realize it.

I believe that you are now on the right road to success, and I have no doubt that you will not only succeed but that a few months will see the embodiment in durable material of the excellent general plans which you have shown me.

The situation could not be better for a great many reasons, and the building would be a model institution if plans are carried out. But pupils must be made worthy of admission through "concours."

I wish you all success, and appreciate the work you have before you, and I hope that you will find the immediate support among the wealthy of America.

Sincerely, yours,

F. A. BRIDGMAN.

NEW YORK, November 13, 1894.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Your favor 12th instant to hand. Regret I will not be able to meet you this evening. Hope I may see you before you sail. I felt assured your visit would result favorably, for you are doing a grand work in Paris, and your many friends in the United States fully appreciate your ability; and many like yourself would be only too glad to put our daughters under your care and protection. Hoping God will continue to shower upon you and your work His blessings, believe me,

Cordially, yours,

W. GLENN TAYLOR.

1 WEST FIFTY-THIRD STREET,  
New York City.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: In obedience to your request, I write you this letter to approve the effort you are now making in behalf of American students in Paris. With such an indorsement as you have shown to me, of most prominent citizens in this country and in France, I can not doubt that you will succeed. Wishing and believing that you will, I am,

Very sincerely, yours,

Rev. JOHN W. BROWN,  
Of St. Thomas's Church.



APRIL 20, 1890.

DAVID H. GREER, *St. Bartholomew's:*

I consider this to be a great want, and likely, from my knowledge of Miss Smedley, to be carried to a great success.

EDWARD WALPOLE WARREN,  
*Rector St. James's Church.*

235 FIFTH AVENUE,  
*New York, November 15, 1894.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am very glad to learn that you are making such good success with your enterprise in establishing a Christian home for young lady art students in Paris. Such an institution will be a great advantage at the present time, and if it can be established on a permanent basis will be of the most incalculable benefit to the American art students, and I know of no one more competent than yourself to organize such an establishment.

Yours, respectfully,

LEWIS A. SAYRE.

NEW YORK, 1896.

I am glad to have the opportunity to add my name to the long list of those who have indorsed your work. I think such an institution as you propose to secure for your female art students in Paris is very much needed.

The present conditions, mode of life, and surroundings of many of these young women are not what it should be, as I have had ample opportunity to see during my three years' residence in the Latin quarter.

Yours, very truly,

ERNEST FLAGG, *Architect.*

John Clark Ridpath, LL. D., ex-vice-president De Pauw University, author of *Great Races of Mankind*, *History of the World*, etc., of Greencastle, Ind., approving the work here proposed by Miss Smedley.

John Bryan, of Ohio, author of *Fables and Essays*.

NEW YORK.

I certainly think that cautious sifting of students is eminently necessary, because I have seen so many uselessly encouraged.

J. LA FARGE.

NEW YORK, November 13, 1894.

I sincerely hope the philanthropic Americans will see this as I see it and co-operate with you in this glorious work. Wishing you abundant success, believe me,

Very truly, yours,

CHARLES AYER WHIPPLE.

AMERICAN ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION,  
*Paris, April, 1905.*

MISS M. SMEDLEY.

DEAR MADAM: As an American art student I should like to express my appreciation of the value of the work upon which you have so energetically entered. To anyone who knows how the average student of art or music has to live in this great, crowded city, with the bad food and worse accommodations and the attractive but unwholesome moral atmosphere—to anyone who has had more than a casual glance at the student life here there can be no question as to the crying need for just such an institution as the one you are about to establish, and especially do our girls need it.

The advantages of your institution to an inexperienced person coming to Paris without a sufficient knowledge of the language would be many. To find at once a ready source of information on all points relating to either music or art, choice of professors or schools, etc., would supply a long-felt want, and the opportunity for acquiring the language, the comforts of an American home,

coupled with good fare and attendance at so reasonable a sum as 5 francs per day, are advantages of which our young women student of music or art will be quick and glad to avail herself.

I feel assured of the success of your plans, and should it be in my power to further them in any way, believe me,

Yours, to command.

G. W. B., *Secretary.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Gladly I offer my humble services for the promotion of this glorious work.

HENRI B. CRULSTILL.

36 NOTRE DAME DES CHAMPES,  
*February 5, 1899.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I was so interested in what you said about the "art institute" last evening, and I want to thank you for what you are doing for the art of our country.

Years ago I came abroad and studied for a time and my masters told me that with hard study I might become one of the great ones, but want of funds sent me home, and for fifteen years I taught, always hoping to some day take up my art work again, and now the time has come and I am one of the art students of the Latin Quarter. I can not but think what "might have been" had the art institute existed years ago, both for me and for the hundred of pupils I have taught the little I knew about art. I am so glad that those who come after will find an easier road. And I expect great things from your work; it is truly marvelous. Success to you is my sincere prayer.

Yours, very sincerely,

EMILY L. WYMAN.

164 RUE DE BANGIRARD,  
*Paris, February 13, 1899.*

MISS SMEDLEY:

Having been present when you kindly gave the little address in Mrs. Smith's studio in regard to your efforts to have a building in Paris where American students might have facilities for studying, I write to say that I think such an institution might be of much benefit if conducted on broad principles. Having been a student here myself, I know that I should have keenly appreciated such a place to study. I put in a plea right now that classes may be open to those of us who would still like to gain knowledge, although we are not in the first flush of youth. We are still young enough in spirit to have our influence upon the world, and may help to elevate our country—long may it live—to a broader plane of thought, where art, literature, and music will at least hold their own with money and politics.

Hoping you will let us hear from you again on the subject,

Very truly, yours,

MARIE LOUISE LASAR.

COMSTOCK ART SCHOOL,  
*28 West Twenty-third Street, New York, November 16, 1894.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Every American heart must swell with pride and admiration for the grand institution you are endeavoring to erect. Mine does, and I want to do all in my power to aid such a noble cause, which will do so much to further the art education of our girls. Such an institution is indeed greatly needed, and I know of many here who will avail themselves of its advantages at the earliest possible moment.

With every wish for its great success, yours, most sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. F. DU BOIS.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., *April 29, 1900.*

MISS MATHILDA SMEDLEY,  
*American Institute, Paris.*

DEAR MISS: In one of our local papers and through the Associated Press news I learned of the inauguration of the American National Institute, of which your

name was mentioned as the "founder." Will you kindly explain the motives and purposes of this enterprise, which you have so successfully lunched in the world for the benefit of the American art students? I am desirous of sending my son to Paris to complete his musical education on the violin, and my means being limited and having no acquaintances in the city of Paris I would like to know, if it be within your province to answer, if I could get the help of the Institute toward gaining admission for him to the French Conservatory of Music. He is at present 18 years and 6 months old. What, in your opinion, would be the minimum charges for entertainment under the auspices of the Institute?

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience and thanking you for the favor of a reply, I beg leave to subscribe myself,

Your obedient servant,

PHILIP BERGE, M. D.

1802 Carondelet, corner Erato.

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RECTOR'S STUDY, CHRIST CHURCH,  
2409 MICHIGAN AVENUE,  
Chicago, October 6, 1897.

From what I have learned of the work which Miss Mathilde Smedley is doing for young Americans seeking instruction in art in Paris, I have no doubt that the enterprise is one well worthy of commendation.

CHAS. EDWD. CHENEY.

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MARCH 7, 1895.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Your plan of arranging an institute for American students in Paris seems to me not only a delightful one, but the realization of it will be a solution of many difficulties in the way of those who wish to make a thorough and competent study of art, and will through them be a valuable agent in our progress in America. Mrs. Keith joins me most heartily in approval of your plans and hopes of their utmost success.

Yours very truly,

CANDACE WHEELER.

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DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: It gives me much pleasure to see you so successful in this truly grand work and that your noble efforts have been crowned with just merits.

PAUL M. RUNION.

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NEW YORK, March 17, 1900.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,

24 Iowa Circle, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: My talk with you yesterday afternoon was most interesting and encouraging, and I can not but tell you how much I appreciate the good work you have done.

Referring to the question of how to obtain the best results in securing plans for your building, I would suggest that you employ some one—the best man you can think of in the profession, either here or in Paris—to form a written programme, giving the conditions of a competition; that is to say, specifying the number of drawings needed and the kind of drawings; also giving a programme of the plot and a full description of the building desired, and that when this programme has been written that you invite everybody to compete, and finally ask the jury of the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris to select from these drawings made in competition the best one for your building. This, I believe, would give the most satisfactory result.

Wishing you every further success in your enterprise, with kindest regards, believe me,

Very sincerely, yours,

THOMAS HASTINGS.

AMERICAN FINE ARTS SOCIETY,  
New York, March, 19, 1900.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
No. 24 Iowa Circle, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I heartily congratulate you upon the great success achieved in Paris in securing the land for the American (Prix de Paris) Institute. Of course I realize that the land is secured only on the condition that a fund for the building is forthcoming, either from private subscriptions or Government appropriation.

The proposed institute, if properly organized, will, in my opinion, be of great usefulness, not only in elevating the standard of art in this country, but also in cementing the cordial relations of the two countries, and my personal cooperation will be gladly given on the condition which I emphasized in a former letter to you, namely, that the enterprise be so organized and safeguarded that the advantages shall accrue to the most deserving and talented students.

I am, very truly, yours,

HOWARD RUSSELL BUTLER.

J. SCOTT HARTLEY, *Sculptor*:

Knowing from personal observation the need of such an institute and believing thoroughly in Miss Smedley, I am happy to express my sympathy with the scheme.

ELIZABETH W. CHOMPNEY.

[Extract of letter from M. Van Vechten Olcott.]

November 15, 1897.

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If I criticised the circular seriously I would suggest that there is not enough said in the petition showing the immense advantage that the satisfactory establishment of the institute in Paris would be to the United States as a nation. Probably, however, this will be dwelt upon in the personal conversation that must be had when Congress meets.

Yours, truly,

J. VAN VECHTEN OLCOTT.

30 BOULEVARD MALESHERBES,  
March 16, 1904.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Your sister, Countess von Daur, was here this afternoon at Mrs. Spaulding's "at home," and I asked her about your work, which has interested me so much. She told me that the final vote is soon to be taken by Congress, and I sincerely hope it may be favorable in every way to the establishing of the institution to which you have given so much labor and effort. This letter may serve you as an introduction to one of the Iowa Representatives, Mr. Hull, a very charming man, whom I met the past summer in Des Moines and who knows Mrs. Spaulding very well. I do not know his address, but you can find it, doubtless, without any difficulty. If you would like to see him, please do so, and tell him all about your plan. Tell him, also, how much we who live in Paris are interested in seeing the early founding of a governmental institution of this kind in Paris.

All our hopes are for the advance of American arts and for the advantage to American students in all branches which we expect to see realized by it. I do not doubt that we shall all hope to hear that the wisdom of Congress will soon have here established, beyond any question of doubt, an institute which can not fall for all time to be one of the richest and grandest centers of culture for American art and music that it is within the power of man to provide.

Wishing you every success, health, and strength to accomplish this object, I remain,

Very sincerely, yours,

T. H. SPAULDING.

Mrs. Spaulding joins also in kindest regards.

P. S.—You may also use my name as an introduction to Mr. Armstrong, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. He is a young man of much ability and promise, and may be able to say a good word for so eminently worthy a cause.

SAN DIEGO, August 10, 1899.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY.

DEAR MADAM: Will you kindly do me the favor to mail to my address a "circular of information" in regard to the "American National Institute," which is to be located at Paris, France.

I have several friends, who, as well as myself, are intensely interested in this beneficent project, and any favor you may be disposed to show us, by way of information, will be greatly appreciated by all.

Very sincerely, yours,

(Mrs.) AUBORA H. TODD.

PARIS, March 22, 1903.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Being at present a student of singing in Paris, I fully realize the importance and necessity of such a house as you propose to found conducted on the principles you suggest. It will be a great protection to American students coming abroad to study, who are oftentimes subjected to fraud and suffering.

With the most sincere hopes of its present prosperity and ultimate success,

I am, yours,

BESSIE COFFIN MAISH.

22 AVENUE NIEL,  
PARIS, April 11, 1892.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: If a word from one of the "American girls" studying in Paris can assist you in this good work, please accept it.

It is more of a necessity than one realizes before living here.

With best wishes for your success, believe me,

Most sincerely yours,

ANNA L. MORSE.

(Pupil of Mme. de la Grange.)

318 WEST TWENTY-EIGHTH STREET,  
New York City, June 6, 1900.

DEAR MADAM: Will you kindly give me any information you can concerning the American Art Institute, as I am contemplating a trip to Paris to advance myself musically, and would like very much to know what it will cost me. Do you take boarders, or, if not, can you recommend some good boarding house and what they charge a week? I would appreciate an answer very much and hope you will favor me with one.

Yours, truly,

ELIZABETH V. WALL.

22 AVENUE NIEL, PARIS.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have been greatly interested in your project of an institute for American students and glad of the bent the place is taking. It will supply a need urgently felt by all who realize the conditions under which our American girls endeavor to study. The difficulties which beset the path of the newly arrived student are many, and the dangers are even worse for young girls who attempt, in the confidence in mankind inspired by our institutions, to guide themselves through a period of study in this Mecca of students. Many go unscathed, but numbers have lost health, time, and money in the vain endeavor to make a beginning of the intended work.

Miss Smedley's plan will prevent this and will be of incalculable benefit to our girls, and through our girls to our American nation. I would be very glad to join heart and hand in gaining friends for such an institution.

With cordial sympathy and hearty cooperation,

MARTHA DENNIG WOODWARD.

467 TOWHY AVENUE,  
Rogers Park, Ill., February 1, 1899.

Mr. CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW,  
New York.

DEAR SIR: Not knowing the address of any of the board of directors connected with the American National Institute at Paris for American girls I write you.

Is it ready to receive boarders, and what are the prices for board with study, and for board alone?

Respectfully, yours,

C. E. ADDY.

No. 6 RIVERVIEW TERRACE,  
Morris Heights, New York City, May 11, 1895.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have been recently reading of your efforts to establish a home for American girls to study art in Paris, and I feel a great interest in the work. As I am a comparative stranger in the city, I know of no way to inform myself concerning the matter, than to address you.

If this is not a liberty, I will be glad to have a line of information from you.

Yours, respectfully,

(Mrs.) FRANCES HARDIN HESS,  
Assistant Librarian, University of the City of New York.

THE VICTORIA, June 14, 1904.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,

Iowa Circle.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: We were so hopeful of your being able to call last evening that it was in my thought to go down and escort you up. But it so happened that this was hardly practicable.

Accordingly, since at 7.30 (the hour named to your hostess) it would still be daylight, it was agreed that we might hope for you nevertheless.

We had all spent an evening in going through the published papers you kindly loaned us and were more than ever anxious for an opportunity to greet you in our simple and homely abode.

If you are to be in Washington on next Monday evening you may count on the family being at home to receive you and upon my bearing you company both going and coming. Or if some evening this week would better suit your convenience, and you will kindly give us a day's notice, we will all endeavor to be here and will accord you the warmest sort of welcome.

We trust that you are in excellent health, that your noble enterprise is prospering, and that in these golden days you find a large measure of compensation for the discomfort of an undue proportion of such as have been without precedent on the other side.

With kindest regards of the whole family and renewed assurance of our interest in yourself and your work, I am, most truly,

Your admirer and friend,

JOHN W. HOYT.

RECTORY, CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER,  
341 WEST HOUSTON STREET,  
New York City, November 16, 1894.

When we sent forth one of our best women, and especially to that section of Europe which every true American loves, beautiful France, we say "Godspeed." Do your best and come back quickly.

Miss M. Smedley has been known to me for years. Her acts are convictions and her work God directed. I commend her as St. Paul did Phebe, for she has with her a shining Christianity. Her mission abroad is a noble one.

WALTER A. A. GARDNER, Rector.

(Hebrews xiii, 2.)

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.,  
August 24, 1900.

MISS MATHILDA SMEDLEY,  
American National Institute, Paris.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Will you kindly send me information concerning the requirements necessary to entrance to the American National Institute established by you in Paris?

I have been studying singing in New York, since the death of my husband, preparatory to appearing in public as a necessary means of living.

Madam Tadski, the great German singer, has befriended me, and I have a letter of indorsement from her. As I have no further income for study I am looking with longing to your great institution for encouragement.

Hoping for an early reply, I am,

Very truly,

EMMA DAVIDSON NUCKOLS.

9 RUE DE FOURNEAUX, *February 7, 1899.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Your talk on Saturday night last was a revelation to me, as I did not know you possessed that rare gift of public speaking that held your audience spellbound for two hours. The more I think about all the splendid plans you have made the more delighted I am.

You are our art students' Moses to lead us out of the "land of ignorance into the land of success." It is certainly the greatest scheme of this century for spreading the interest in art all over the United States. We are looking forward to the finishing of the institute building here in Paris with the greatest delight, and feel sure, with your indefatigable perseverance, all our hopes in that direction will soon be realized.

Wishing you good health to continue your efforts in our behalf, I remain,

Yours, sincerely,

ISABEL E. SMITH.

SEPTEMBER 17, 1894.

Miss SMEDLEY,

118 West Eighty-fourth street, New York City.

DEAR MADAM: With reference to the Paris institute, I wish to make inquiry as to whether it would be possible for a person to go to Paris with the purpose of earning her own living and also to take a course of instruction in the institute.

Yours, very truly,

GRACE D'ELLA COLE.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.,

*September 22, 1900.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am so grateful for your friendly letter which reached me this morning. The tone of interest and kindness makes me more than ever wild to go at once. The \$500 is, however, a rather difficult obstacle, and I fear it will take me a year to have that much ready. I realize the futility of going to Paris or anywhere without being sufficiently prepared financially.

Sincerely and gratefully,

EMMA D. NUCKOLS.

LITCHFIELD, CONN., *July 30, 1894.*

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Will you please be so kind as to let me know the most economical arrangement possible that could be made for a young lady of very limited means who wishes to study French in order to teach. She has studied the language, but lacks practice in conversation, construction, and fluency. I should also like to know what advantages she would have for studying and speaking the language. If you will help me in this matter I will be under many obligations to you.

Believe me, yours most sincerely,

LILY CAPPS.

WEYMOUTH, *July 2.*

DEAR MADAM: I am inclosing a note given to me by Miss Erb, whom I met in London a few weeks ago. I told her I was thinking of going to Paris to take some lessons in singing, and she was kind enough to give me a letter for you. I have been staying at the seaside for a few weeks and I am getting tired of it, as I would like to start work again. I have not yet appeared in London, but have appeared with Hubelik (the famous violinist) and had a very flattering reception. Herr Gorlitz (Hubelik's manager) predicted a grand future for me.

I only hope for its realization. Would you by return let me know your most lenient terms.

With compliments,

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. C. N. KING (née Lili Sharp).

Address: Weymouth, G. P. 6.

P. S.—I must tell you I am an Australian and still keep to my stage name—Lili Sharp.

LONDON, May 29.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I beg to introduce my friends, Mr. and Mrs. King, of Australia. Any information or advice you might be able to give them would be greatly appreciated by me. I do not know that you will remember me, but I spent several very pleasant evenings at your home some time ago, being a friend of Mrs. Tolbot, of Pennsylvania, and Miss Florence Bell, of Chicago. Miss Bell seemed so delighted with her progress in music and happy surroundings; and as my friends are particularly interested in music, and Mrs. King is anxious to study with Marchesi, I thought it would be extremely pleasant for them to meet you.

I am, most sincerely,

DAISY E. EBB.

PARIS, April 2, 1893.

DEAR MADAM: This institute which I hear that you are about to start deeply interests me, I having been an art student in Paris and therefore know all the trials and many temptations which the student meets with, especially in those "Pensions de familles."

I had to pay 400 francs a month. True, it was more a private family than a pension, but still I was on the fourth etage and the food was very poor. Then the most dreadful part of pension life for the young girls who come abroad is, that they are sometimes thrown in with people who ruin not only their future but themselves, poor things, and therefore the sooner this institute is started the better, as the need is most pressing. As much as I can do in forwarding the cause, you will always find me most ready and willing to do, and I shall recommend your institute to all art students with whom I come in contact.

Very truly, yours,

IDA LURIG KLAHN,  
Singing Teacher, 105 Rue de Proug.

TUESDAY MORNING, October 1, 1895.

MISS SMEDLEY.

MY DEAR FRIEND: I wrote to you from this place where I am now stopping. I am undecided what is best to do. I want to go on with my music and am sure I can make a success of it, but money is the drawback. I am willing to study hard and do everything in my power to win.

Write and tell me what Mr. Thier said, and if he will give me lessons any cheaper.

Yours, sincerely,

MISS FOX.

HOTEL BEAUJON,  
8 Rue Balzac.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Mother has decided to take the room downstairs. I should like to know if it will be convenient for you to take me to Julian's academy to-morrow? If I do not hear to the contrary, I shall expect you sometime after eleven. Until then,

Sincerely, yours,

VIOLET LANGHAM.



203 BOULEVARD RASPAIL,  
December 1, 1900.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I wish to thank you for your efforts in our behalf in making such a pleasant Thanksgiving, and also Mrs. Jackson for that good Thanksgiving dinner and the kind hospitality that I so much enjoyed and which will always remain in my memory.

I thank you again and remain,  
Yours, sincerely,

DAVID W. HUMPHREY.

CONSERVATORY OF CHURCH MUSIC,  
139 EAST FORTY-THIRD STREET,  
New York, April 30.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: A very severe cold has prevented me from attending your meeting at Sherry's last night, the weather also being most inclement. You will succeed in your noble enterprise, for I do think that our better class of people are becoming gradually more art loving and willing to help art students with talent.

Wishing you every success,  
Yours, sincerely,

J. GRAF.

MARCH 29, 1901.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: If you will permit me, I will call on you to-morrow night with a charming young American girl, who wants to see if she can profit by studying at the Institute. To that end she would like to inquire in detail about the methods of admitting students and the system of study.

If you can receive us, you will greatly oblige.

Yours, sincerely,

LEE MCKELWAY.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, August 28, 1901.

HON. HORACE PORTER,  
Paris, France.

DEAR SIR: Not knowing the correct address of the United States consul in your city, J. K. Gowdy, I take the liberty of addressing this to you, with the humble request to kindly refer this to the consul or officer you may deem in proper position to respond.

I desire to know the names and addresses of any commercial or other schools in France teaching commercial correspondence. In fitting myself for a foreign correspondent I have to become familiar with foreign business methods, and this I wish to do through one of these schools.

Trusting you will be able to see that a satisfactory response reaches me, that you will not consider me presumptuous, and thanking you kindly in advance,

I beg to remain, respectfully, yours,

J. H. GEYSBECK.

25 RUE DUPHOT,  
April 30, 1900.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Please accept my thanks for the delightful evening passed at the inauguration of the "Institut National Americain," to which you so kindly invited me. As it is impossible for me to have the pleasure of calling upon you to-day, I take this means of expressing my gratitude.

Yours, very sincerely,

MRS. E. J. LEVY.

BOULEVARD RASPAIL 203,  
October 11.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Fortunately I was one of the many American students that spent an enjoyable evening at the Institute last Saturday evening.

I am taking a regular painter's course at the Julian Academie in preparation for book illustration. Am heartily in accord with your good undertaking, and desire to do all I can to advance it.

Yours, respectfully,

E. EARLE HOGENROOM.

PARIS, March 31, 1893.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: It gives me great pleasure to hear that you expect to open a house where American girls coming to Paris for the purpose of studying music, painting, or French can have a comfortable home without fear of being cheated in regard to the price of board or in any other way.

After a stay of several weeks in this city, during which time I was treated very dishonestly at my boarding place in a private family, I fully realize the necessity for such an establishment as you intend to have.

If I ever return to Paris I shall certainly make my home with you, and I shall tell all of my friends to do the same.

Very respectfully,

ABBIE POTTS.

PARIS, February 21, 1899.

MISS MATHILDA SMEDLEY.

DEAR MADAM: I wish to thank you for your interesting lecture on the "American National Institute" given at the studio of Mr. and Mrs. Smith; and also to express my appreciation of the successful efforts you have made to establish the institution upon a national and permanent basis.

I feel that the American National Institute will be of inestimable advantage to our American students and a credit to our great country. It will not only educate the individual students, but will educate our people at home to an increased knowledge and appreciation of art.

I hope to interest the people of my native city, St. Louis, Mo., in the institute, and shall take an early opportunity to send a letter on the subject to one of our leading daily papers.

My daughter is now in Paris studying and I hope in the near future she may be able to attend the American National Institute.

Sincerely, yours,

Mrs. HUGH ARMSTRONG,  
Miss MARIE L. ARMSTRONG.

NEW YORK, September 29, 1897.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*New York City.*

DEAR MADAM: Having carefully considered the magnificent educational work which you have so successfully inaugurated in Paris, I take pleasure in bringing about an affiliation between your organization and the American Patriotic Musical League.

As you are aware, the particular purpose of the league is to consolidate all existing educational, protective, and art organizations into a national institution which shall exert a controlling influence over all the arts involved in the entire system of public entertainment, to the end that its full educational and humanizing possibilities may be realized and that the condition of the many thousand persons involved in its operations may be improved. While our ultimate object is to build up American institutions to raise the standard of American production, I conceive your work to be not at all inimical to the fulfillment of our purpose, inasmuch as your central idea seems to be to make proper provision for the Americans who insist upon finishing their studies in Europe or are compelled to do so by the lack of fostering influences at home. With this understanding that the purposes of both organizations are fundamentally nonconflicting, and appreciating the advantages to American art and education which would arise from their cooperation, I have the honor to submit for your approval and adoption the inclosed form designated "Articles of association."

Very respectfully,

WINFIELD BLAKE,  
*Secretary.*

VILLA PARK, September 15, 1900.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: One of the memories I shall cherish will be the brief acquaintance with you, and I hope sincerely that the work upon which you have entered with so much zeal may be crowned with great success. Such an institution ought to fill a very important place in musical life and attract a great deal of attention from Americans contemplating the study of art in all its branches. There are so many students desiring a course of foreign study with no definite idea how to secure the best results, and this school will solve the problem.

Yours, truly,

MIRIAM CALLAHAN.

ON BOARD THE STEAMSHIP PATRICIA,  
November 18, 1903.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: On leaving Paris I wish to thank you again for the many kindnesses showered on me while there.

So many girls go to Paris without any knowledge of the language, where or how to secure the advantages they are seeking, and thus much valuable time and money are wasted because there is not an institute for American students. In lieu of such an institute you are the best friend a student could have. My progress in French was very much more rapid, owing to the school in which you placed me. Altogether I could not have been more advantageously situated. My only regret was in leaving Paris before I could avail myself of all the advantages you had placed before me.

With my kindest remembrances and regards, I am,  
Very sincerely, yours,

MARY WILSON.

Hon. A. G. FOSTER,  
Washington, D. C.

DECEMBER 30, 1903.

MY DEAR SENATOR: This will introduce Miss Smedley, of New York, who has been laboring for years to establish an American institute at Paris, and is seeking the cooperation of our Government. Any courtesies shown Miss Smedley will be considered a personal favor to me.

Thanking you in advance,

I am, very truly, yours,

J. J. SMITH.

I am much interested in your enterprise, and think it an important advance in art education.

LOUIS C. TIFFANY.

Hon. WILL E. HUMPHREY,  
Washington, D. C.

DECEMBER 30, 1903.

MY DEAR SIR: This will introduce Miss Smedley, who is seeking the cooperation of our Government in establishing an American institute at Paris. Any aid that you can consistently give Miss Smedley will be appreciated by me.

I am, sir, yours, very truly,

J. J. SMITH.

Hon. LEVI ANKENY,  
Washington, D. C.

DECEMBER 30, 1903.

MY DEAR SENATOR: This will be handed you by Miss Smedley, of New York, who is seeking to have our Government establish an institute at Paris. Anything you can do, consistently, to aid Miss Smedley, will be appreciated by me.

Thanking you in anticipation,

I am, very truly, yours,

J. J. SMITH.

## HISTORY.

INITIAL WORK AND ORGANIZATION OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE,  
INCORPORATED 1895.

## ORIGINAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE, 1895.

Chauncey M. Depew, LL. D., 43 West Fifty-fourth street, New York; E. Walpole-Warren, D. D., St. James, Seventy-first street and Madison avenue, New York; Thomas Hunter, president Normal School, New York, Normal College, Sixty-eighth street and Madison avenue, New York; Gen. Joshua L. Chamberlain, ex-governor of Maine, Brunswick, Me.; Count von Daur, Van Dyke Studio, Fifty-sixth street and Eighth avenue, New York; Hon. John D. Crimmins, 40 East Sixty-eighth street, New York; John F. Dillon, LL. D., ex-judge of the supreme court, 195 Broadway, New York; Henry G. Marquand, president Metropolitan Museum, New York, corner Madison avenue and Sixty-eighth street, New York; Rev. Charles F. Hoffmann, D. D., LL. D., D. C. L., 31 West Seventy-second street, New York; Candace Wheeler, president Society of Associated Artists, 124 East Twenty-seventh street, New York; Mary R. Callender, 7 East Seventy-second street, New York; Caroline de Forest, 7 East Seventy-second street, New York; Helena de Kay Gilder, Century, Seventeenth street, Union Square; Mariana G. van Rensselaer, 9 West Eleventh street, New York; Frances A. Levy, 275 West End avenue, New York; Sarah E. Buckbee, 34 West Ninety-first street, New York; Elizabeth C. Edmund, Brunswick, Me.; Matilda Smedley, Van Dyke Studio Building, Fifty-sixth street and Eighth avenue, New York; Mrs. Walden Pell, Paris.

## THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS), PARIS, FRANCE.

Incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, 1895.

This organization approved by—

Edward Walpole-Warren, D. D.  
Mrs. Candace Wheeler.  
Chauncey M. Depew.  
Mary R. Callender.  
Caroline de Forest.  
Joshua L. Chamberlain.  
Henri von Daur.  
Thomas Hunter.  
Thomas W. Wood, president National Academy of Design.  
Emily James Smith, dean Barnard College.  
George B. Post, president American Institute of Architects.  
W. H. P. Faunce, pastor Fifth Avenue Baptist Church.  
John D. Crimmins.  
McKim, Mead & White, architects.  
H. J. Burrell, Collegiate Church.  
Carrere & Hastings, architects.  
Howard Russell Butler, president American Fine Arts Society.  
Chartran.  
R. de Madrazo.  
Henry Wolfsohn.  
R. E. Johnston & Co.

J. Maurice Grau.  
P. R. Uhler, Peabody Institute.  
A. J. Valch.  
H. Sylck.  
J. Q. Ward.  
Jno. S. Wise.  
Lillian Nordica.  
Edward Lauterbach.  
Alexander C. Morgan.  
W. H. Howland.  
Mrs. Walden Pell.  
Edgar Goodfield.  
Sol. B. Solomon.  
Lolo P. Brown.  
J. C. Knecht.  
George Brown.  
J. J. Smith, M. D.  
R. L. Solomon.  
Ada M. Brenzing.  
H. von Colzhaschan.  
J. H. Bouffard.  
Z. K. Waterbury.  
Z. Takito (Japan).  
P. Wood.  
Louise Patterson.  
A. M. Hume.

## MEMBRES HONORAIRES DU CONSEIL.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| J. B. Eustis, ambassador of the United States to France.                      | M. José Maria de Hérédia, de l'Académie Française.                                       |
| M. Samuel E. Morss, consul-general of the United States.                      | M. A. Kaempfen, directeur des Musées nationaux.  |
| M. Massenot, membre de l'Institut.  | M. Emile Soldi Colbert.  |
| M. Théodore Dubois, directeur du conservatoire, membre de l'Institut.         | M. Georges Picot, secrétaire perpétuel de l'Académie des sciences morales et politiques. |
| M. Puvis de Chavannes, président de la Société nationale, Champ-de-Mars.      | M. Frédéric Passy, membre de l'Institut.   |
| M. Paul Dubois, membre de l'Institut, directeur de l'Ecole des beaux-arts.    | M. L. Laisney, avoué au Tribunal de première instance.                                   |
| M. François Coppée, membre de l'Institut.                                     | M. Arnaud de Fofard, avocat.   |
| M. Sully Prudhomme, membre de l'Institut.                                     | M. F. Adolphe Bocage, architecte, membre de la Société centrale.                         |
| M. Benjamin Constant, membre de l'Institut.                                   | Mme. Isabelle Bogelot, chevalier de la Légion d'honneur.                                 |
| M. Auguste Rodin, statuaire.  | Mme. Kendall Champlin.   |
| M. Camille Flammarion, chevalier de la Légion d'honneur.                      | Mme. Camille Flammarion.   |
| M. Duc de Pomar.  | Mme. Baronne Seillière.  |
| M. Carolus Duran, vice-président de la Société nationale, Champ-de-Mars.      | Mme. Comtesse de la Rochefoucauld.   |
| M. Gustave de Morsier, membre du conseil de la Société française d'arbitrage. | Mme. James Jackson, founder and president of the "Woman's Exchange," Paris.              |
| M. Jules Cambon, ambassadeur de France aux Etats-Unis.                        | Mme. Madeleine Lemaire, membre fondateur du Salon, Champ-de-Mars.                        |
| M. Henri Houssaye, de l'Académie Française.                                   | Mme. Bensaude.   |
|   | Mme. Blanc (Théodore Bentzon).   |
|   | Mme. Juliette Adam, directrice de la <i>Nouvelle Revue</i> .                             |

## MEMBERS OF THE WASHINGTON CLUB, WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY, 1900.

- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Mrs. E. B. Lee, president.   | Clara Warren McNair.       |
| Julia Graham.                | Mrs. Richard Goldsborough. |
| Alice Frye Browne.           | Mrs. Leigh Robinson.       |
| Mrs. Fitzhugh Lee.           | Virginia Miller.           |
| Miss F. W. Halyburton.       | Elizabeth G. Copellin.     |
| Miss Minna Blair Rickey.     | Mrs. A. Colman.            |
| Adele H. Vulte.              | Mrs. Georgia Roberts.      |
| Caroline J. Heger.           | Mrs. M. Kirkup.            |
| Margaret Corse Beale.        | Mrs. O'Connell.            |
| Margaret Gillmore.           | Mrs. Dolliver.             |
| Mrs. Edmund K. Goldsborough. | Mrs. Hitchcock.            |
| S. L. Nichols.               | Mrs. Hay.                  |
| Edith A. Hawley.             | Mrs. Connor.               |
| Esther A. Dorst.             | Mrs. Hull.                 |
| Matilda G. Saxton.           | Mrs. Clemmons.             |
| Margaret M. Davies.          | Mrs. Burrows.              |
| Anne B. Kennon.              | Mrs. Spooner.              |
| Katie C. Stewart.            | Mrs. C. Roberts.           |
| Annie H. Wagner.             | Miss May Roberts.          |
| Anna J. Westcott.            | Mr. Lewis B. Reed.         |
| Hannah Cassel Mills.         | Judge Wm. B. Matthews.     |
| Kate Kearney Henry.          | Mrs. Matthews.             |
| Maud Thornhill Porter.       |                            |

It seems to me that the scheme and purpose of the National American Institute at Paris are, as I understand them, excellent, and that its success is in every way desirable.

W. D. HOWELLS.

## MEETING.

On the 16th of December, 1895, the board of trustees of the American National Institute met at the house of the Hon. Chauncey M. Depew. After the transaction of other business, the work that Matilda Smedley had accomplished was discussed and accepted; and she was unanimously authorized to continue her efforts and to receive subscriptions for the building as well as for the endowment of the institute, and that Miss Smedley shall be reimbursed all expenses incurred.

Approved by the board of trustees, as foregoing.

*Executive committee.*—Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, chairman; Rev. E. Walpole Warren; Gen. Joshua L. Chamberlain; Hon. John D. Crimmins; Miss Caroline de Forest; Miss Sarah E. Buckbee; Miss Frances A. Levy; Miss Matilda Smedley, ex officio; Count von Daur, ex officio.

*Members of the French committee, Paris.*—M. Félix Herbet, avocat à la Cour d'appel, maire du 5<sup>e</sup> arrondissement; M. Léon Cléry, avocat à la Cour d'appel; M. Charles Richet, professeur à la Faculté de médecine; M. Antony Ratier, sénateur, avoué au tribunal de la Seine; Mme. Marjolin (née Ary Scheffer); Mme. James S. Gibbs, former president Amateur Musical Club, Chicago; Mme. Demont-Breton, présidente de la Société des femmes artistes; Mme. Walden Pell and Miss Matilda Smedley, ex officio.

For all official correspondence address: M. Henry Vignaud, honorary member of the committee, first secretary of the United States embassy, 18 avenue Kléber, Paris.

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NEW YORK, February 15, 1896.

*To the American National Institute, incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, December 9, 1895:*

We are in full knowledge of the enterprise founded by Miss Smedley and cooperate in the work to bring about a successful issue, which we believe will be a great power for good to deserving American students who will be sent abroad for study under proper restrictions, and will serve on a board of examiners as president of the National Academy of Design, Thomas W. Wood; president of the American Water Color Society, J. G. Brown; president of the Art Students' League of New York, George W. Breck; president of the Architectural League of New York, George B. Post; president of the Metropolitan School of Fine Arts, A. Francis Wattson, March 2, 1896; president of the Fine Arts Society, Howard Russell Butler; president of the National Sculpture Society, J. Q. Ward, March 4, 1896; president of Society of Associated Artists, Mrs. Candace Wheeler; first vice-president of the Municipal Art Society, William H. Coffin; School of Applied Design, Mrs. Dunlap Hopkins.

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LETTER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

NEW YORK, January 31, 1896.

The undersigned trustees of the American National Institute, in addition to the formal vote authorizing Miss Smedley to continue the collection of subscriptions and contributions in aid of the institute, hereby offer the testimony of their personal approval and sympathy.

We have given earnest attention to the purposes and plans set forth by Miss Smedley and to the measures by which she has secured so admirable a beginning. She has labored zealously in this country to obtain a permanent charter and adequate support for this institute.

We heartily commend her to all who appreciate the value of this line of practical education, which in its scope and effect will be a great public benefit.

It is far from our wish to seem to encourage young girls to go abroad for study, and it is not the design of this institute to offer such inducements, but it will remain almost a necessity, certainly a persistent fact, that students who are obliged to make their talents for artistic work a means of support will be forced by what is almost a public demand to perfect their studies by a finishing course in Paris.

To those who know the condition of student life in that city an institute like this will warmly commend itself.

Miss Smedley has thorough knowledge of all the conditions to be provided for and has the cordial support of many of the most worthy and distinguished citizens of France in this good work. She should be sustained here.

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW.  
 THOMAS HUNTER, *president Normal College.*  
 MARY R. CALLENDER.  
 CAROLINE DE FOREST.  
 CANDACE WHEELER.  
 FRANCES A. LEVY.  
 HENRI VON DAUR.  
 M. G. VAN RENSSELAER.  
 JOHN D. CRIMMINS.

EDWARD WALPOLE WARREN, D. D.  
 HON. HENRY G. MARQUAND, *president Metropolitan Art Museum.*  
 SARAH E. BUCKBEE.  
 E. C. EDMUNDS.  
 Judge JOHN F. DILLON, LL. D.  
 CHARLES F. HOFFMANN, D. D.  
 Gen. JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN, *ex-governor of Maine.*

PARIS, February 21, 1894.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am much interested to know that you have undertaken to found an institute for the American students in music and art. I shall use all my influence to help you to carry out your projects.

My experience will serve to show that there does not exist such an institution for the American students, for I have known many who have had to struggle against difficulties, and have been obliged to return home without having accomplished the purpose for which they came, whilst others almost died for want of proper nourishment during the time of study, and not for the want of means, for many have to stop where the table is so poor that they do not get enough to eat.

The bureau of general information will be invaluable, as through it the students will be well directed, and have protection from fraud and loss of time. Also, the course of lectures will place the student under the course of the best literature and culture of the day.

Knowing, from what I hear, that you are entirely qualified for this work. I would recommend parents to place their daughters with perfect confidence. The plan of the institution is unique in itself.

Yours, sincerely,

Mrs. WALDEN PELL,  
 1, Avenue Montaigne.  
 Mrs. O. R. PELL.

#### BY-LAWS OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS) AT PARIS, FRANCE.

[Incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, December 9, 1895, embodied in the new incorporation of 1904 by act of Congress, passed the Senate April 18, 1904, and to be amended as may be required.]

##### ARTICLE I.—*Trustees.*

SECTION 1. The number of trustees of this corporation shall be increased or diminished in the manner provided by law, but at present their number is ———.

SEC. 2. The first board of trustees shall by lot or otherwise divide itself into three classes, to hold, respectively, one, two, and three years. One-third only of the trustees shall be elected by ballot by a majority of the remaining trustees at each annual meeting.

SEC. 3. Vacancies in the board of trustees occurring during the year shall be filled by majority vote of the board at any regular meeting, or special meeting called for that purpose.

SEC. 4. The board of trustees shall meet every month, except in the months of August and September, on the first Wednesday. Special meetings of the board may be called by the president or on the written request of five trustees. The first Wednesday of January shall be the general meeting of the year of the board of trustees. Seven members of the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but at least six affirmative votes shall be necessary to pass any measure.

##### ARTICLE II.—*Officers.*

SECTION 1. The officers of this corporation shall be an honorary president, a president and four vice-presidents, a first secretary and a treasurer, a second secretary and an assistant treasurer.

Sec. 2. The title of honorary president is offered to the Secretary of State, the first vice-president to the President of the Senate (United States), the second vice-president to the Secretary of the United States Treasury, as perpetual titles and *ex officio*.

Sec. 3. In order to perpetuate the ten years of Miss Matilda Smedley's indefatigable efforts for the foundation of the American National Institute, and in the meantime having organized and sustained the preliminary house for three years—the corner stone of the institute—that her name shall stand on the rolls of the institute, founder, director-general, in perpetual remembrance of the benefaction established and her title continue founder and director-general, with *ex officio* rights; that she should exercise her influence in the future as in the past to keep up the interest in the work in securing scholarships, and fraternity between France and the United States.

Sec. 4. In consideration of having founded the institute, Miss Smedley shall have the right and power to propose two deserving students, who shall have their living and the privileges of the institute free of charge, and these two being called "Matilda Smedley scholarships."

Sec. 5. The president shall preside at all meetings of the board of trustees, and shall, under the control of the trustees, have the general management of the financial affairs of the corporation, and shall in general perform all the duties pertaining to his office.

Sec. 6. The acting president and two vice-presidents, the secretary and treasurer shall hold their offices for one year and until their successors are chosen and qualified. These officers shall be elected by the trustees by ballot at each annual meeting.

Sec. 7. In the absence or incapacity of the president, one of the vice-presidents, following the order of their election, shall perform the duties of that officer.

Sec. 8. In relation to the secretary-general, that in recognition of his untiring efforts of a period of seven years, Mr. von Daur shall be appointed first director in charge of the institute for a term of six years, with privilege of reelection if he so elect and conditions confirm.

That an underdirector shall be elected to act with him to secure the benefits of his knowledge and to be made acquainted with his commanding efforts to advance the American National Institute.

His profound knowledge of four languages, and principally the French, and his great experience in all matters concerning the study of art, literature, and science, have made him very valuable, and we believe he should be compensated with a similar position in this institution.

He has been intrusted with the secretaryship during the period of three years of the preliminary house of the institute, having given his valuable time to the work without any remuneration.

Sec. 9. The secretary shall keep a record, in books provided for that purpose, of all the meetings and proceedings of the board of trustees. He shall notify the trustees of their meetings, and shall attend to such correspondence of the corporation as the board of trustees shall direct, and shall in general perform all the duties pertaining to his office.

#### ARTICLE III.

Sec. 10. The treasurer shall have the custody of, and be responsible for all moneys, deeds, and other titles to property held by the trustees of this corporation, and also all books and accounts of the corporation, save such as shall hereafter be directed to be kept by the secretary or by the resident director of the institute in Paris, France. At each annual meeting he shall present a full statement of the affairs of the corporation. He shall have the custody and care of the seal of the corporation, and shall generally perform all the duties pertaining to his office. He may be required to give bonds in such sum as the trustees deem proper.

#### *Executive.*

Sec. 11. There shall be chosen from the board of trustees an executive committee of five, of which two of the vice-presidents and the secretary and founder shall be members *ex officio*, which committee shall in the interval between meetings of the trustees have charge and direction of the active concerns of the corporation, but they shall not act contrary to the instructions of the board of trustees nor inconsistently with its expressed policy.



They shall audit monthly the accounts of collecting and disbursing agents and bills for incidental expenses, and the approval of the chairman shall be the treasurer's warrant for payment thereof.

SEC. 12. At the meeting of the board of trustees in the house of the Hon. Chauncey Depew, December 16, 1895, it was decided by the committee that Miss Smedley should be reimbursed for all the expenses she would have to meet for the establishment of the American National Institute in Paris.

The late Rev. Charles F. Hoffmann read the address and committed the measure to the board of trustees, which was agreed upon.

SEC. 13. The board of trustees shall establish and enforce the rules and regulations for the direction and conduct of the institute in Paris and confer (correspond) with the director of the institute in Paris, giving him such instructions as may be necessary. (See Rules and Regulations hereafter.)

SEC. 14. The trustees shall appoint not less than three, and no more than five, persons of permanent residence in Paris, a majority of whom shall be citizens of the United States, who shall constitute an honorary council of residents, of which the American ambassador or the first secretary of the embassy shall be requested to act as president or honorary president ex officio, to which the director may submit questions of immediate local interest in the conduct and administration of the institute, and the advice and consent of a majority thereof shall be the director's full authority for the decision of such questions.

*Executive committee to be appointed by the trustees.*

The executive committee shall keep a minute of their doings, which shall be reported at each meeting of the trustees for their approval.

The assent of at least three members of the executive committee shall be requisite to authorize any measures submitted to their charge.

ARTICLE IV.—*Subscriptions.*

SECTION 1. Subscriptions shall be opened for the creation of State scholarships through legislation, in order that each State may become a patron of the work by securing at least one scholarship of \$900 or \$1,000 per year for the most deserving student of either branch of learning in the institute in Paris and submit such candidates to a competition by a special appointed jury of the respective State. All this money shall be trusted to the finance committee (treasurer) of the American National Institute, the income of which shall go to the maintenance and general expenses of the institute. The institute in Paris shall be in charge and under the immediate direction and supervision of the resident director. (See special rules and regulations for the institute in Paris.)

SEC. 2. Private scholarships already subscribed, as the Mrs. Walden Pell Prize, \$10,000; Mrs. James Jackson, also \$10,000; Mrs. Frank Leslie, \$5,000; Madame Baronne de Zedwitz, \$500. Further, all gifts in pictures, statuary, books, musical instruments, etc., shall be tendered within six months from the date when this corporation has been sanctioned by Congress and the board of trustees has been organized and had its first meeting.

SEC. 3. That said corporation is hereby empowered to acquire property, both real and personal, by deed, lease, devise, subscription, purchase, gift, or by any other lawful means in the United States and France; and, in particular, is empowered to succeed to the rights and to take over, hold, and administer all the property of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris), a corporation heretofore incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, including all its scholarships, subscriptions, bequests, gifts, and pledges, and ground conceded by the municipality of the city of Paris, France, seal and emblem.

ARTICLE V.—*Seal of corporation.*

The seal of the corporation shall be circular in form with the design of the emblem and with the words "American National Institute" and the figures "Incorporated 19—." It shall be impressed on all certificates, concessions, and contracts on the part of the corporation, and on other papers by law requiring a seal.

ARTICLE VI.—*Amendments.*

Further details of organization or management shall be provided for in a code of by-laws, adopted by the trustees, which may be amended at any regular meeting thereof, notice of proposed amendments having been given at least two weeks previous to action thereon.

STATE AND PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIPS, GIFTS, REQUESTS, AND PLEDGES TO  
THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE, PRIX DE PARIS.

The creation of scholarships existed long ago, and there are many given from private persons as well as from institutions all over the United States to enable students for a limited period to go abroad to finish their education. But such students receive little consideration in Europe; they go as far as their money reaches, and pay dear for what they seek. A great deal of time is lost in finding out just what they want to do, and sometimes the temptations of a great city lead them to lose the right path. When they finally place themselves under a good master, most of their money has been expended, consequently they are compelled to return home. But being once addressed to an institute whose organization will be under the protection of the United States Government, they will have the proper guidance and direction. The student will not only be highly estimated and receive the best consideration, but they will without unnecessary delay receive the best instruction this country can afford. The incorporators hope that in the future many of these private scholarships will be put under the care and control of the American National Institute.

The Institute de France, founded the 22d of August, 1795, has made it its principal mission to receive all the new discoveries and to encourage the perfection in the arts and sciences, literature, etc., and not only has the Government of France provided sufficient means, but many private persons have given great sums of money, being thus combined amounting to millions.

Through these wise and generous gifts and a well-founded organization competitions are open every year, as there are hundreds of thousands of francs in prizes to be awarded to the laureate work in all branches of art, literature, and science; but of course these competitions are intended for such men of talent who have already reached the standard of perfection in their respective line of culture.

No doubt once the American National Institute is in operation, such competitions will be opened for the encouragement of our American genius.

SCHOLARSHIPS, SUBSCRIPTIONS, GIFTS, ETC., OFFERED TO THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

Mrs. Walden-Pell, \$10,000; Mrs. James Jackson, \$10,000; Mrs. Frank Leslie, \$5,000; for the scholarship fund, Baroness von Zedwitz, \$500; Mme. S. Bensaude, Paris, an annual subscriber, a grand piano of the house of Erard in Paris; a Liszt organ, of Boston; works of Dr. Charles Richet, professeur de la Faculte de Medicine, membre de L'Institute; Mr. Julius Stewart, a picture; Mr. E. L. Weeks, a picture; Mr. F. A. Bridgmann, a picture; Mr. Charles Hollman-Black will give a concert at his studio; Mr. Jean Paul Laurens, a picture; Mr. Rodin, one plaster cast; Mr. Chartran, a picture; Mr. M. H. Allourd, a drawing or a modeled statue; Mr. Benjamin Constant, small study or picture; Mr. Raphael Collin, a study or a design; Miss Julia Beck, a picture; Mr. Carolus Duran, a study; Mr. L. Breilner will organize a concert; Mr. François Coppée (ses œuvres), his works; Mr. Puvis de Chavannes, a picture; Mr. L. Lee Robbins, a picture; Mr. Syamour, a statue in plaster; Mr. Tony Robert Fleury, a picture; Mr. Jules Lefebvre, a picture; Mr. Walter Day, a small picture, Mr. Raffaelli, a picture; Mr. Ezikyl Rome, a bronze bust of Liszt; Mme. Anna de la Grange, will give a concert for the benefit of the institute; Mr. George Clairin, a picture; Mr. Ricardo de Madrozo, a picture; Mr. Anton Seidl, a concert at the Metropolitan Opera House for the benefit of the institute; Mr. T. Hollman will organize a concert for the institute; one collection of 27 helio-

gravures after fresco paintings by Paolo Veronese from the Villa del Conte Emo at Tanzolo, province of Treviso; a course of singing, three times a week, one hour and one-half, in favor of the pupils of the institute and reduction of one third of ordinary prices for private lessons by Mme Marguerite Yvelling Rambaud, née De Barral; reduction of one-third in singing lessons for the institute, Mme. T. de Picciotto; Mme. Emma Eames Story will sing in a concert for the benefit of the institute; Mme. Pauline Gayraud Pacini will give lessons at half the price on the piano for the benefit of the institute; M. Massenet will give a concert for the benefit of the American National Institute; Mme. Emma Calvé will sing for the American National Institute; Mr. Ary Renan has promised a work of his father (Ernest Renan) for the institute; Mme. Bataille will teach at half the price for the pupils of the American National Institute; Mr. T. Machard, a picture; Mr. Leon Jancey, secretary of the Opera Comique, lessons in diction (half the price).

PLAN FOR RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE  
(PRIX DE PARIS).

CHAPTER I. Officers of the institute in Paris.

SEC. 1. Director in Paris. Prize students of the institute in Paris (pensionnaires).

SEC. 2. Allowance for the prize students. Travel.

CHAPTER II. Work of the prize students.

SEC. 1. General studies.

SEC. 2. Special studies concerning the obligatory work to be sent to America. Work and studies: Architecture, sculpture, painting, applied design, music, dramatic art, literature, languages, scientific instruction, and research.

CHAPTER III. Concerning the exposition of the obligatory work and studies at Paris to be sent to Washington. The report of the director in regard to the obligatory work and studies.

CHAPTER IV. Concerning the reserve fund. Measures to be enforced in case of nonfulfillment of the obligatory programme.

CHAPTER V. Rules and regulations in general.

CHAPTER I.

Officers of the American National Institute Prix de Paris in Paris (France).

SEC. 1. Director.

Prize students (pensionnaires).

ARTICLE 1. The American National Institute to be under the administration of a director.

(2) The director of the American National Institute in Paris to be appointed by the President of the United States on proposition of the Secretary of State and chosen from a list of candidates presented by the board of trustees and the jury of the institute.

(3) The director to be appointed for a period of six years.

(4) The director independent of his administrative functions shall exercise control over the studies and the obligatory work of the prize students. He shall have a special register with all details in regard to the programme as is set forth later in article 27.

(5) The vice-director shall perform all the duties of the director during the absence or inability to act of that officer.

In case of the absence or inability to act of the director and vice-director, the secretary may perform their functions and preside on the monthly meetings of the honorary council of residents.

VI. The secretaries.

Each branch of the institute will have a secretary; that of the young women to be a lady and that of the young men a gentleman. It will be their duty and charge to have all records of their respective section and keep all papers concerning the educational matters, conduct the correspondence as the director will charge them, and submit every act to his knowledge and signature. The secretaries shall have power to call to their assistance the curator in matters of correspondence and other administrative duties.

VII. The curator and librarian.

(1) In subordination to the board of trustees or the director, the curator shall have under its charge and superintendence the buildings and their contents, and shall have under his control its officers and employees.

(2) He shall have charge, subject to the director, of the receipt, the removal, arrangement, and preservation of the pictures, statues, casts, musical instruments, furniture, and the library.

(3) He, or some one designated by him, shall be present when the institute is open to the public on exhibition days and concerts, lectures, etc., and give information to visitors and see that all regulations are enforced.

(4) He shall conduct all correspondence relating to matters of art, music, and the library, and keep a record thereof, which at all times shall be subject to the inspection of the director and board of trustees.

VIII. The prize students of the American National Institute in the several branches will be provided with a free scholarship for a period of three years.

IX. Every prize student is obliged to leave the United States at the latest the 20th of November of each year, and has to notify the director in Paris of his departure and the steamer on which he takes passage; otherwise he would lose his right as a laurate student and the appointment at the institute.

X. Every prize student shall present himself (or herself) immediately at the institute upon their arrival in Paris, according to the certificate which will be then rendered after registry, and duly inscribed. After this registry the director reads to the prize student the rules and regulations which concern every student, and especially their individual branch of study, and gives them a printed copy.

XI. Married students can not become candidates for the Paris prize, neither present themselves for the competition. A prize student marrying during the period of his (or her) scholarship would lose it.

SEC. 2. Concerning the allowance of the prize student for travel.

XII. Every prize student who leaves the United States for Paris receives a sum of \$150 for traveling expenses.

XIII. The yearly allowance for each prize student at the American National Institute during his or her stay in Paris will be a total of \$900, which sum is divided as follows: (1) A yearly allowance of \$900, 4,500 francs. This sum is paid to the prize student in the following order: Annual allowance 2,400 francs, at the rate of 200 francs for each month, which sum each student will receive in cash to cover his general expenses and for study. Five hundred francs are kept back each year for the reserve fund, as stated later, of which will be kept an account at the end of the three years' study in Paris. (2) For board, 150 francs per month; per year, 1,800 francs; total, 4,200 francs. Besides this, each student will receive at the end of the year an indemnity for expenses of studies in proportion to the respective branch of study. For instance, painters and sculptors, from 100 to 500 francs a year; architects, from 100 to 600 francs a year; music, literature, science, or research, from 100 to 500 francs a year.

XIV. During the travel of the prize student he or she will receive 300 francs per month allowance.

XV. Architects or students for research or exploration will receive a special indemnity for traveling expenses not exceeding \$200. Each prize student will at the end of his term at the institute in Paris receive \$150 for his return to the United States.

XVI. No prize student can undertake a voyage or absent himself from the institute without a permit or a special authorization from the director.

XVII. The country and the purpose of such voyage must be strictly defined in these authorizations; any transgression or deviation of the programme would have as a consequence the dismissing of the prize student from the institute and entail eventually the loss of his scholarship.

XVIII. Each prize student shall be obliged during the first year of his term to remain in Paris. The second year permission can be granted to travel, but only for a determined period and specified programme with the authorization of the director, who will consult the board of trustees in America.

XIX. Musicians for composition, after having passed two years in Paris, may receive a supplementary scholarship, which will enable them to go to Italy, Germany, and Austria.

XX. The prize student, when traveling, must each month send a full account of his or her work; any transgression of the given programme would result in a partial loss or the total of the reserve fund.

CHAPTER II.—*Work of the prize student.*

XXI. (1) The prize student shall execute each year the work, the nature of which individuality and class are determined by special programmes revised and formulated for each year.

XXII. The work to be accomplished by the prize students shall consist (1) in general studies, in order to keep and develop their instruction and their talent; (2) in special studies, according to each individual branch of study, which will consist in their yearly obligatory work, as set forth by special programme.

XXIII. *General studies.*—The study and practice (through special organization) of the French language. The library of the institute is open every day for the students of the institute and is exclusively reserved to them. The gallery of casts after the antique in sculpture and architecture is open for the students every day. Lectures on history and archæology, etc., are delivered for the benefit of the prize students.

XXIV. *Special studies.*—The studies, being the result of the given subject for the yearly obligatory work to be sent to Washington, will have to be strictly fulfilled according to the given programme, which will be published every year.

XXV. Studies of prize students who are in possession of a "private scholarship" at the institute for one or two years only are subject to special rules.

XXVI. The prize students, painters, or sculptors must submit their studies and sketches of their yearly work to the director; subject and dimensions have to be strictly observed.

XXVII. The prize student of architecture must notify the director of the monument which he intends to make the subject of his or her study.

XXVIII. The musician will communicate to the director the title of the work they propose to make the object of their study.

XXIX. The acceptance of the different subjects, their development and dimensions, will be noted in a special registry and they have to be signed by the prize student concerning him or her.

XXX. Every change in the programme must be communicated to the director and must be accordingly inscribed in the aforesaid registry.

XXXI. Each year, before the 15th of January, the director addresses a full report to the board of trustees, in which he will communicate the progress of the work of each prize student. It is desirable that the students give to the director every detail that concerns their individual branch of study in order to facilitate this report.

CHAPTER III.—*Exposition of the obligatory work of the prize students in Paris and in Washington—Report of the director of the American National Institute.*

XXXII. The work as by the given programme for each year shall be at the disposition of the director each year not later than the 1st of April.

XXXIII. Every year, on the 1st of April and during fifteen days following, the work of the prize students shall be on exhibition to the public at the galleries of the American National Institute in Paris. Every student not having obeyed the aforesaid rules and regulations will lose the right to exhibit.

XXXIV. Only such works are admitted to the exhibition as are prescribed in the given programme.

XXXV. Immediately after the exhibition in Paris the works will be sent to Washington and the board of trustees will decide which shall be kept (after having been exhibited for fifteen days) for preservation, and dispose of each work accordingly; or send them to the special State from which comes the holder of the scholarship.

XXXVI. The result concerning the obligatory work of the prize students in art, literature, music, etc., will be published in a report by the trustees after having been submitted to the President of the United States, and inserted in the official record, and will be communicated to the director for further publication at the institute in Paris.

CHAPTER IV.—*The reserve fund—Measures which can be put in force by non-execution of the obligatory work of the prize students.*

XXXVII. The reserve fund will be reserved for a guaranty of the exact fulfillment of the given programme to each prize student. No one will have the right to appropriate this fund before the expiration of his or her term of pension at the American National Institute and having accomplished all obligation according to the regulations.

XXXVIII. The director having received all necessary information, exceptions can be made in favor of the students when the students could not otherwise finish their last year's study. One-half of said reserve fund shall be used by the students. The second part will be paid to them after their work has been accomplished and on exhibition in Washington.

XXXIX. If a prize student has during two years neglected to satisfy his obligations, his reserve, or the part of his reserve fund, will be returned to the treasurer.

XL. When it occurs that a prize student has not fulfilled his obligations during two years, the director will, in a report, notify the board of trustees, and it will be decided if he or she will have to lose the scholarship.

*CHAPTER V.—Rules and regulations established for the American National Institute.*

XLI. During their sojourn at Paris the prize students shall live in the buildings of the American National Institute and take their meals in common.

XLII. As the time of the prize students while at the institute will be exclusively devoted to study or research, no speculative work shall be indulged in by them.

XLIII. The distribution of the rooms and studios will be made by the director, according to the special branch to which students belong.

XLIV. It will not be allowed to take any object, as books or notes of music, etc., which belong to the institute, to rooms or outside the building, or to take away plaster casts, or pictures which are placed for general usage in the galleries, without the consent of the director.

XLV. Students are responsible for the furniture of their room or their respective studio, subject to an inventory at the expiration of their scholarship term.

XLVI. Students will take their meals in common in the institute, to which they can not invite outsiders.

XLVII. It is expressly interdicted that students keep anybody at the institute over night under any pretext whatever.

XLVIII. To maintain perfect order and safety the doors of the buildings must be closed at midnight. (For concerts, theaters, etc., special permit will be given by the director.)

XLIX. As prize students are given the immediate protection of our Government, it is hoped that their conduct will be irreproachable.

L. Every prize student who commits an act against the laws of the country in which he or she receives hospitality can, by report of the director to the board of trustees, lose their scholarship and be obliged to return home.

## PRELIMINARY HOUSE, 50 AVENUE D'ÉNA.

LECTURES, CONCERTS, AND RECEPTIONS GIVEN AND ORGANIZED BY THE  
AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE, PARIS, 1899-1900.

[From the New York Herald, Paris, Sunday, February 25, 1900.]

PRIX DE PARIS FOR AMERICA—SUCCESS OF MISS SMEDLEY'S EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH AN INSTITUTE HERE—INAUGURATION ON APRIL 27—AID GIVEN BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AND EMINENT FRENCH MEN OF LETTERS.

*To the Editor of the Herald:*

We have much pleasure in informing you that, after seven years of unceasing effort, Miss Smedley has attained the end she set out to gain, namely, the establishment in Paris, for our American youth, of an institute corresponding to the French Prix de Rome.

She left a week ago on the *Normandie* for New York, carrying with her the official evidence of what France has contributed toward this end. Not only has she received the promise of numberless gifts of art and literature, as has already been stated, but the municipal council of Paris has now conceded the ground upon which to erect the building, offering the choice of 14 sites, the plans of which Miss Smedley is to lay before the home committee and the officials at Washington.

She is also the bearer to President McKinley of a resolution of sympathy and cooperation signed by the following illustrious men of France, representing the Academy, Institute, and the literary, artistic, and official worlds: Messrs. F. Brunetière, G. Boissier, José María de Heredia, Thureau Dangin, André Theuriet, Henry Housaye, Jules Lemaitre, Duc de Broglie Gréard, Vicomte de Bornier, Gebhart, Comte d'Haussonville, Mézières, Paul Bourget, Albert Vandal, Gaston Paris, Eugène Guillaume, Ludovic Halévy, Lavissee, Paul Deschanel, Sully-Prudhomme, George Clairin, G. Hanotaux, Georges Picot, François Coppée, Edmond Rousse, Vicomte E. M. de Vogüé, Albert Sorel, Comte de Mun, Léon Bonnat, Carolus Duran, Bartholdi, Benjamin Constant, Corman, Ed. Corroyer, Gérôme, Jules Breton, Jules Claretie, Marquis Costa de Beauregard, William Bouguereau, L. Lépine, Aug. Rodin, Emile Clairin, Joy V. Chelminsky, J. de Selves, Lyon Caen, Rocquain, Ravaissonmollien, Adolphe Guillot, Luchaire, Anatole Leroy-Beaulieu, Aucoc, D. Puech, L. Puech, Georges Leygues, Henri Roujon, E. Saglio, Docteur Ch. Richet, Docteur Albert Robin, J. Bernardi, Léon Cléry, Félix Herbet, Duc de Pomar, Georges Ohnet, Julien Pierné, René Lenormand, Emile Soldi-Colbert.

A meeting was held at the present house of the institute, 50 avenue d'Éna, on Tuesday, the 6th instant, to lay before the honorary council of the institute in Paris a summary review of the work accomplished and the expenses relating to it. Among those present were Messrs. Félix Herbet, avocat à la cour d'appel, mayor of the sixth arrondissement (Beaux-Arts); Sully-Prudhomme, Soldi-Colbert, and Charles Richet. After the transaction of business and the reading of the report of the municipal council, the house was inspected and was pronounced to be in an ideal and appropriate location, facing the place des États-Unis, and in its appointments a most excellent promise of the greater building.

It has undergone thorough repair, and a large salon has been added to it capable of seating 200, where lectures, conferences, and concerts will be given gratis by the first masters for the education of the students. There is a garden attached containing a smaller house, which has been transformed into studios and class rooms.

The many gifts of pictures, statuary, and literary work promised over their signatures by the most distinguished and talented men of both France and Italy have not yet been called in, but the members present were able to admire the library and the most valuable and unique collection of twenty-seven heliogravures, reproductions of the frescoes of Paolo Veronese at a villa of Treviso, given to Miss Smedley during her stay in Venice, last October, by Commendatore Barozzi; director of the Royal Museums, as a token of his acknowledgment of the work.

It was decided that, owing to the lateness of the season, the real school year begin on October 1, but that, in the meantime, students and teachers coming to Paris for the benefit of education could be admitted on and after April 1, when the inauguration will take place, the house being already open to visitors from 10 a. m. to 1 p. m. daily.

Before the close of the meeting there was a vote of good wishes to Miss Smedley for a safe voyage and a speedy return, with the signing of a declaration by the members for the continuation of their good offices. A vote of thanks to the press was not forgotten.

Lastly, Miss Smedley expressed her grateful appreciation of all that France and the members of the French council and committee in particular had done for the progress of the institute, and the honor conferred upon the work by having among these members His Excellency M. Jules Cambon, representative of France to her country. What is America's appreciation of their support and concession can best be shown by the following quotation from President McKinley's message on February 5, 1900:

"The United States Government building is approaching completion, and no effort will be spared to make it worthy, in beauty of architectural plan and in completeness of display, to represent our nation. It has been suggested that a permanent building of similar or appropriate design be erected on a convenient site, already given by the municipality, near the exposition grounds, to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American national Institute, for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study."

She also said how great was her regret that three of the warmest patrons of the work, Mme. Emilie de Morsier, Mrs. Walden-Pell, and the Duchess de Pomar, should not have lived to witness its final success, but, as their valuable assistance was indispensable to Miss Smedley, so would their memory be kept always fresh within the walls of the institute.

In carrying the evidence of the work to America, Miss Smedley leaves behind her a veritable host of illustrious supporters to cooperate in the best possible way for the completion of the final result—the greater building of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris).

#### INAUGURATION OF THE TEMPORARY PREMISES OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE, APRIL 27, 1900.

Mr. Sully-Prudhomme, the poet laureate of France, presided and delivered an address, in which he referred in his eloquent and classical language to Miss Smedley, the founder of the institute.

At the end of this opening speech he said: "The colony of artists of which you are directress will find in France the most cordial of welcomes.

"Our compatriots, confrères of your own, feel that they will reap advantage from being associated in a permanent way with this select circle of artists from the United States."

He also congratulated Miss Smedley on her successful visit to Washington, where she has received such high consideration from the President, and makes himself interpreter of equal sentiments of sympathy of the Chief Magistrate of his own country.

Further, he expresses recognition in the name of the pensionnaires (prize students) of the institute, their unalterable gratitude toward Miss Smedley as the founder and director-general, and toward Mr. von Daur, the secretary-general, whose devotion and zeal is so efficaciously seconding her efforts, and also to her other coworkers, and concluded by hoping that France, who had aided the United States in gaining their independence, would in the sphere of art crown the intellectual and moral efforts of that aid by her example and traditions.

The distinguished composer, M. Massenet, took active part in making the musical portion of the evening's programme a success, accompanying the artists on the piano.

The United States ambassador, Gen. Horace Porter, Mr. Henry Vignaud, first secretary of the United States embassy; many prominent members of the Academy de France and the Institute; a select number of the American colony, and many students were present.

[Extract from *Le Petit Journal*, samedi, 28 avril 1900.]

On inaugurait, hier soir, le nouvel Institut national américain de Paris. Cependant, de nos écoles de Rome et d'Athènes, où les jeunes gens et jeunes filles de l'Union viennent, après concours, se perfectionner dans les arts, les lettres ou les sciences, avait, en effet, tenu à affirmer son existence à la société parisienne en la conviant, ainsi que la colonie américaine, à une fort intéressante soirée artistique.



Très vives sont les sympathies que le jeune institut, œuvre de la dévouée Miss Smedley, a déjà su grouper autour de lui; aussi, en réponse aux invitations lancées par le distingué secrétaire général, M. von Daur, une foule nombreuse se pressait jusque dans le vestibule du petit hôtel provisoire de l'avenue d'Iéna.

Non seulement avec le Général Porter, ambassadeur des Etats-Unis en France, les Américains et Américaines de Paris, se trouvaient présents, mais encore de très notoires Français, à commencer par MM. Sully-Prudhomme et Massenet, deux amis de la première heure.

Le poète Sully-Prudhomme s'est même fait l'éloquent interprète des sentiments unanimes de notre pays, en souhaitant une chaleureuse bienvenue au jeune institut, nouveau gage de l'amitié intellectuelle et morale qui doit unir deux grandes nations.

Quant à M. Massenet, il a été tout simplement le héros de la soirée, dont la partie artistique était presque tout entière consacrée aux œuvres de l'illustre compositeur. Le maître remercia, du reste, ses hôtes de cette attention en se chargeant lui-même de la partie d'accompagnement.

Une fois terminé ce concert, où furent notamment applaudis Mlles. Relda, Esther Fée, et Courtenay, M. Clarence et un débutant de grand avenir, M. Frank Pollock, on se sépara en buvant de grand cœur à l'institut et à ses organisateurs; on n'oublia pas non plus ses maîtres de demain, l'élite de nos artistes et de nos lettrés, qui veulent coopérer au succès d'une fondation si profitable pour l'Union et si délicatement flatteuse pour Paris.

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris, autorisé par l'Etat de New York, 9 décembre 1896.]

Le comité de l'Institut national américain prie M. ——— d'assister à la soirée d'inauguration de l'institut, qui aura lieu le 27 avril 1900, en son hôtel provisoire, 50, avenue d'Iéna, sous la présidence de Monsieur SULLY-PRUDHOMME, qui prononcera un discours. Monsieur MASSENET veut bien nous honorer de sa présence et accompagner quelques-unes de ses compositions. A 9 heures précises. R. S. V. P.

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris autorisé par l'Etat de New York, 9 décembre 1896. 50 avenue d'Iéna, en son hôtel provisoire, Place des Etats Unis.]

PROGRAMME DE LA SOIRÉE D'INAUGURATION, AVRIL 27 1900.—DISCOURS DE MONSIEUR SULLY-PRUDHOMME.

Mlle. Esther Fée: Violon, "Danse hongroise" (J. Brahms). Mlle. Relda, de l'Opéra Comique, et M. Frank Pollock: Duo, Madrigal, "Roméo et Juliette" (Gounod). M. Clarence, de l'Opéra Comique: Air "d'Iphigénie en Aulide" (Glück). Mlle. Relda, de l'Opéra Comique: "Pourquoi rester seulette?" (St. Saens). M. Frank Pollock: Cavatine de "Roméo et Juliette" (Gounod). Mlle. Esther Fée, accompagnée par l'auteur: Violon, Méditation, "Thaïs" (Massenet). Mlle. Courtenay, de l'Opéra Comique, accompagnée par l'auteur, air et gavotte de "Manon" (Massenet). M. Holman Black: (A) "Mainacht" (J. Brahms); (B) "The Violet" (Mildenberg). Mlle. Relda, de l'Opéra Comique, accompagnée par l'auteur: Fabliau de "Manon" (Massenet). M. Frank Pollock, accompagnée par l'auteur: Air de "Werther" (Massenet). Mlle. Courtenay et M. Clarence, de l'Opéra Comique, accompagnés par l'auteur: Duo de "Thaïs" (Massenet).

Au piano, Monsieur Massenet et Madame Gayrard-Pacini.

INAUGURAL DISCOURS DE MONSIEUR SULLY-PRUDHOMME.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR, MENDAMES, MESSIEURS: Miss Matilda Smedley, fondatrice et directrice de l'Institut national américain, m'a fait l'honneur de m'inviter à présider la séance d'inauguration de cette belle école dont le domicile provisoire, par le confort et le bon goût, promet une installation définitive sans rivale. Je sens profondément cet honneur, mais j'en suis à la fois intimidé et confus. D'une part, en effet, cette réunion n'est pas seulement familiale, elle m'impose par le caractère solennel que lui confère la présence de monsieur l'ambassadeur des Etats-Unis d'Amérique, si brillamment accompagné; d'autre part, ma qualité littéraire est-elle pour moi un titre suffisant à prendre ici la parole? Sans doute la poésie est à quelque degré parente de la musique, mais l'usage la distingue et l'exclut du groupe appelé

les beaux-arts. Il me semble donc que j'usurpe la fonction qui m'a été confiée. Elle revenait de droit à quelqu'un de plus autorisé que moi, à mon illustre confrère Massenet, par exemple, qui, plus prudent, sans sortir de son art, s'est assuré bien mieux, ce soir, le moyen de vous charmer, de vous édifier aussi, car il s'est adjoint de préférence des artistes américains, tous formés à Paris, afin que leur talent vous permit de présager les fruits à venir de cet institut naissant.

Quel motif a donc pu déterminer en ma faveur le choix téméraire de Miss Smedley ? D'où me vient ce privilège ?

Peut-être a-t-elle pensé que, dans l'âme de tout artiste, quel que soit son instrument d'expression, équerre, ébauchoir, pinceau ou archet, tressaillait une âme de poète, et a-t-elle voulu le rappeler aux pensionnaires de l'Institut américain en m'associant à cette fête inaugurale. S'il en est ainsi je la remercie de tout cœur d'avoir sanctionné par là le rapport de confraternité qui m'unit le plus intimement à eux. Ah ! certes, ils sont tous poètes par le plus noble objet de l'art, qui est d'aider l'espérance à dépasser l'horizon terrestre. L'échelle des jouissances que procure l'art commence à un plaisir tout sensuel de l'œil ou de l'oreille, à une caresse, pour s'élever, grâce aux liens mystérieux des sensations avec les sentiments, par le passage purifiant de l'agréable au beau, jusqu'au délice de la contemplation, jusqu'à l'ivresse de l'essor.

La poésie ne se contente pas d'attirer tous les arts dans son orbite, de les faire tous participer de sa nature et de son idéal ; son rôle, tel du moins qu'il m'apparaît, est plus ambitieux encore ; harmonieuse par essence, elle prépare et sollicite à l'harmonie toutes les relations humaines. Miss Smedley l'aurait-elle aussi deviné ? Sa fondation favorise mon rêve très cher de voir les grands peuples, dépositaires et représentants de la civilisation, spécialement les Etats-Unis d'Amérique et la France, communiquer le plus possible entre eux, non pas seulement par l'échange de leurs inventions et de leurs richesses industrielles, mais surtout par le plus haut commerce des intelligences et des cœurs.

Ce commerce spirituel réalise, à mon avis, le progrès capital des sociétés humaines. Progrès, hélas ! trop lent, car l'unanimité des peuples est loin d'être accomplie, et la paix n'est encore entre eux qu'un équilibre instable de leurs forces respectives. Aujourd'hui, néanmoins, malgré la diversité irréductible de leurs tempéraments et de leurs intérêts matériels, commence à s'établir, sur les questions supérieures, sur les principes de la vie morale, un indéniable accord entre les esprits qui forment l'élite des principales nations ; la conférence de la Haye en témoigne. C'est dans cette élite généreuse, en compagnie d'écrivains, de savants, de philosophes, que se recrutent les artistes, et c'est elle qu'il importe d'accroître sans relâche, car seule elle conserve intégralement et propage les caractères supérieurs qui distinguent notre espèce de toutes les autres et en constituent la primauté. Ces caractères, vous le savez, sont le respect de la justice, la recherche de la vérité pour elle-même et, enfin, le sentiment du beau, le goût la faculté d'admirer. Or, cette dernière aptitude est éminemment sociale ; rien, en effet, ne contribue davantage à rapprocher, à mêler les âmes, que l'admiration partagée. Il est aisé d'en apercevoir la cause. En présence des actions et des formes qualifiées belles, devant un sacrifice héroïque ou devant le Parthénon, à l'aspect de la Vénus de Milo ou à l'audition d'une symphonie de Beethoven, nous nous sentons transportés d'une extase délicate et grave à la fois. Nous pressentons alors une félicité suprême innomable, révélée, dans la belle action, par le triomphe surnaturel du vouloir bienfaisant sur l'instinct égoïste, et, dans la belle œuvre d'art, par la réconciliation des sens avec le sens moral, avec le principe divin de la dignité, qui leur emprunte ses moyens d'expression. En un mot, nous aspirons. Or, pendant qu'ils aspirent ensemble, les hommes ou bien confondent plus intimement leurs mutuelles affections, ou bien, s'ils sont ennemis, posent les armes ; ils renoncent à la haine pour répondre à un appel commun de leur destinée mystérieuse. Ils y répondent par des larmes pures qui lavent, pour un moment, les offenses. Il semble même que la communion morale engendrée par le culte du beau efface entre ses adorateurs toutes les différences ethniques et individuelles pour ne laisser subsister en eux que la divination d'une même cité céleste refusée sur la terre à l'espèce humaine, mais entr'ouverte, un instant, pour eux.

De ce point de vue les beaux-arts apparaissent comme des agents de civilisation quasi-religieux, et les artistes comme les ministres sacrés de la fraternité universelle, ministres inamovibles, dont l'action pacifiante a, depuis Orphée, Ictinus, Apelle et Phidias, devancé de l'Evangile et des sciences morales et politiques sur les relations civiles ou internationales. Aussi toute entreprise qui a pour objet d'unir les peuples dans l'étude et la création du beau sous toutes ses formes, si modestes qu'en puissent être les débuts, est sainte à mes yeux comme la poignée de grains dans la main du semeur.

Mais l'Institut national américain n'a même pas eu à débiter humblement ; il a commencé sur de très larges bases, et j'ai appris avec beaucoup de plaisir qu'elles ont

été récemment élargies encore. Il a été décidé, pour satisfaire à de légitimes instances, que les jeunes américains y seront comme les jeunes filles, appelés à partager tous les avantages intellectuels, toutes les ressources d'instruction qui s'y trouvent amplement réunies sans demeurer, bien entendu, sous le même toit que leurs compagnes d'école. Par cette annexion complémentaire l'esprit et le règlement de l'Institut national américain sont rendus aussi libéraux que possible.

La colonie d'artistes, dont vous êtes, Miss Smedley, la directrice, trouvera, soyez-en bien assurée, chez ses hôtes français l'accueil le plus cordial. Nos compatriotes, confrères des vôtres, sentent ce qu'ils auront à gagner eux-mêmes à un contact familial et permanent avec cette députation choisie du jeune génie artistique des Etats-Unis.

Pardonnez-moi de n'ajouter aucune vue d'ordre pratique aux réflexions précédentes: je suis un rêveur. En vous témoignant la sympathie admirative que nous inspire votre œuvre par sa portée esthétique et par sa noble contribution à la mutuelle amitié de deux grandes nations, je serais bien embarrassé d'unir le conseil à l'éloge; je m'en tiens à mon impression, et cette allocation est déjà trop longue.

J'y ajoute peu de mots pour la clore. Je vous félicite vivement des témoignages de sollicitude que vous avez recueillis dernièrement pour cette œuvre du chef de l'Etat dans votre patrie. J'ose me porter garant de dispositions aussi bienveillantes chez le premier magistrat de la nôtre. Je me fais, en outre, l'interprète de l'inaltérable reconnaissance des pensionnaires de cet institut envers vous, envers M. von Daur et tous vos autres collaborateurs dont le dévouement, zélé comme le sien, vous seconde si efficacement. Qu'il me soit permis enfin d'exprimer l'affectueuse fierté que j'éprouve à penser que la France, après avoir contribué à l'indépendante formation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique, va, dans la sphère de l'art, prêter à leur couronnement intellectuel et moral le concours de son exemple et de ses traditions.

SULLY-PRUDHOMME.

#### INSTITUT NATIONAL AMÉRICAIN. <sup>a</sup>

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris, autorisé par l'Etat de New York, 9 décembre 1895.]

Madame James Jackson, fondatrice de la bibliothèque de l'Institut national américain, prie M—— d'assister à la matinée qui aura lieu le 21 juillet 1900, à l'hôtel de l'Institut, 50, avenue d'Iéna. De 4 à 7 heures. R. S. V. P.

<sup>a</sup> L'inauguration à Paris de l'Institut national américain ne fera que resserrer les liens intimes entre les deux Républiques sœurs. En tendant vers le rapprochement de l'âme française et de l'âme américaine par l'art et la pensée, le Prix de Paris aura secondé la fraternité des deux peuples d'une façon plus efficace que ne saurait le faire le traité diplomatique le plus ingénieux. Notre illustre collaborateur et ami, M. Sully-Prudhomme, en qualité de président d'honneur de l'œuvre, a su formuler avec cet accent pénétrant et intense de l'amour de l'humanité, qui caractérise son œuvre poétique et philosophique, le but, la signification et les tendances de l'académie américaine. Nous nous garderons bien d'affaiblir, en le commentant, cet exposé magistral et lumineux qui a si vivement impressionné tous les participants de la fête d'inauguration où on pouvait voir groupés autour de l'ambassadeur des Etats-Unis, M. Horace Porter, les représentants les plus brillants des lettres et des arts en France. Nous nous en garderons d'autant plus que l'orateur, de même que les directeurs de l'Institut, ont bien voulu réserver à La Revue le texte de ce discours-programme, dont seulement un passage a pénétré jusqu'à présent dans la presse française et étrangère.

Nous profiterons de cette occasion pour rappeler que l'Institut a été fondé grâce à l'initiative et à l'énergie de M<sup>lle</sup> Smedley, qui n'a cessé depuis 1893 de travailler à la réalisation de cette idée. Après une série de voyages de New-York à Paris, elle est parvenue à l'imposer à la ville de Paris et à sa patrie dans leur intérêt commun. Aidée ensuite par le concours de M<sup>me</sup> Walden Pell, M<sup>me</sup> E. de Morsier et plusieurs législateurs américains, M<sup>lle</sup> Smedley a réussi à faire incorporer son projet dans les lois de l'Etat de New-York (le 9 décembre 1895). La protection accordée, dès le début à l'œuvre de M<sup>lle</sup> Smedley par le gouvernement français, la bonne grâce avec laquelle M. le préfet de la Seine a bien voulu mettre à sa disposition plusieurs terrains à son choix, la sympathie des grands maîtres de l'art et de la pensée en France et enfin le concours effectif et inappréciable de M. Henri de Daur, le secrétaire général du nouvel institut, ont permis de donner à cette Académie, dès sa fondation, une base solide et de lui assurer un avenir qui s'annonce durable et prospère. (Note de la rédaction.)

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris, autorisé par l'Etat de New York, 9 décembre 1895. 50, avenue d'Iéna.]

PROGRAMME DE LA MATINÉE MUSICALE DU 21 JUILLET 1900.<sup>a</sup>

*Première partie.*—M. Paul Wiallard: "Hérodiade," Vision fugitive (Massenet). a, Air du "Tasse" (Godard); b, "Hymne au soleil" (A. George). M. Clifford A. Wiley, élève de M. Paul Wiallard: "Since first I met thee" (Rubinstein). Mlle. Minnie Tracey: a, "La jeune religieuse" (Schubert); b, "Elle est à toi" (Schumann). M. Clifford A. Wiley: a, "Persian love song" (de Koven); b, "Thy beaming eyes" (MacDowell). M. Paul Wiallard, M. Clifford A. Wiley: "Le crucifix" (Faure). Accompagnateur: M. X.

*Deuxième partie.*—Mlle. Jeanne Bathori: a, "Fleur du matin" (Chaminade); b, "L'anneau d'argent" (Chaminade); c, "Ronde d'amour" (Chaminade). M. Paul Wiallard: a, "Rêve d'un soir" (Chaminade); b, "Berceuse" (Chaminade); c, "Immortalité" (Chaminade). Mme. Ronchini: a, "Villanelle" (Chaminade); b, "Viens, mon bien-aimé" (Chaminade); c, "L'été" (Chaminade). Au piano: Mlle. Cécile Chaminade.

## AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

[From the New York Herald.]

## MATINÉE AND GARDEN PARTY ON JULY 21, 1900.

On Saturday, July 21, 1900, at the preliminary house of the American National Institute, 50 avenue d'Iéna, the committee of this institute gave a grand matinée musicale and garden party.

Miss Matilda Smedley, the founder and director-general, Mr. von Daur, the secretary-general, and Mrs. von Daur, and Mrs. James Jackson, founder of the library, were receiving the guests.

The lecture hall and reception rooms had been decorated with a profusion of palms and choice flowers, in which the French and American flags were intermingled.

In the well-shaded veranda going into the large garden the buffet was arranged, laden with dainties, and the ladies in most charming toilettes were to be seen taking their tea at little tables regardless of the high temperature reigning in Paris.

The musical programme had been arranged by Mr. Paul Wiallard, a distinguished French artist and a warm friend of the work. M. Wiallard, who is gifted with a most agreeable tenor voice, sang airs from Massenet's "Hérodiade" in a very remarkable manner.

Miss Minnie Tracey, the American soprano, gave the "Hymn to the Sun," by A. George, and other songs; and Mr. A. Clifford Wiley, also a most promising American artist, pupil of Mr. Wiallard's, bore evidence to his teacher's excellent method. He sang in a most sympathetic voice De Koven's "Love song" and other compositions. But it was a rare privilege indeed to the guests of hearing Madame Chaminade accompany a series of her own charming compositions, interpreted by Mademoiselle Bathori and Madame Ronchini, both accomplished artists.

The well-known pianist, Mr. Rudolf Panzer, played two of Liszt's compositions in masterly style.

The arrival of his grace Archbishop Ireland was greeted with applause, and being asked to speak, he kindly consented to do so, first in English and then in excellent French.

The Archbishop of St. Paul's commenced by saying that the Americans were undoubtedly an eminently practical and go-ahead people in all branches of industry and commerce, but that in regard to the "beautiful," they were obliged to cross the ocean and come to France in order to perfect themselves in the fine arts, and find the true "Mecca" for their intellectual aspirations and pursuits.

France has at different times already offered sympathy and encouragement to the committee of the American National Institute.

When the United States will have replied to the courteous and noble generosity of the town council of the city of Paris, after due deliberation on the part of Congress at Washington, we shall have the great satisfaction of erecting a permanent edifice for the Paris prize, and it will then become the highest ambition of our students to compete for this prize.

<sup>a</sup> Donnée par Madame James Jackson, fondatrice de la bibliothèque de l'Institut national américain, donatrice d'une bourse (scholarship).

This academy with its promising programme will then give us at no distant period a national reputation.

The eminent prelate then urged the Americans present to make it their duty to recommend this great work on their return home and to make their fellow countrymen understand that this institute will be not only an individual blessing, but also an absolute necessity for the American people, whereby their manners will gain refinement and their principles the highest elevation.

His grace ended by saying that he was glad to have noted a most promising basis of progress in the preliminary house so happily situated Place des États-Unis.

This progress was due to the indefatigable efforts of Miss Matilda Smedley, the founder of the work, whose acquaintance he had made five years ago in America at the outset of the enterprise; he also complimented Mr. von Daur, the secretary-general who had united his zeal and effort to hers in helping her in the organization of this gigantic work.

The archbishop also expressed his great satisfaction in recognizing the interest of Mrs. James Jackson in the work in having subscribed a scholarship and promised the foundation of the library of the institute.

Her noble initiative is most praiseworthy and should stimulate others to contribute according to their means toward completion and maintenance of the American National Institute.

Following are the names of some of the persons who assisted at this *matinée*, besides the students:

M. United States consul-general.  
M. Ed. Bruwaert, consul-general of France to the United States.  
Sully-Prudhomme, membre de l'Institut.  
A. H. de Villefasse, membre de l'Institut.  
Philippe F. Lott, membre de l'Institut.  
H. Daumet, membre de l'Institut.  
Charles Richet, professeur à la Faculté de médecine.  
Gaston Darbois, secrétaire permanent de l'Académie des sciences.  
Albert Carré, directeur du théâtre national de l'Opéra-Comique.  
Frédéric Passy.  
Dr. James Taylor, président Vassar College.  
Dean Crane, président Cornell College.  
M. Louis Herbette, conseiller d'Etat.  
W. H. Warden.  
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Eddy.  
Mr. and Mrs. Humphry Moore.  
Mr. L. Breitner.

Mr. Emory A. Clark.  
Mr. and Mrs. Clergue.  
Miss Clergue.  
Mme. A. Lecomte du Maury.  
M. et Mme. J. Rodin.  
Duc de Pamar.  
Mrs. Randolph and daughters.  
Madam von Pelt.  
Madam Temple.  
Madam Thomas.  
Madam Hussey.  
Madam May Wright Sewell.  
Major Truman.  
Marchioness of Wentworth.  
Count d'Oldhémér.  
Senator and Mrs. Dandurand, of Montreal.  
Mr. and Mrs. de Young, of San Francisco.  
Mr. and Mrs. F. Barry.  
Mrs. Barrett.  
Mrs. Lenard.  
Mrs. Bates.

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris, autorisé (incorporated), 50, avenue d'Iéna.]

PROGRAMME DU CONCERT DONNÉ LE VENDREDI, 26 OCTOBRE 1900, À 9 HEURES DU SOIR.

En souvenir du 2 octobre, jour anniversaire de la naissance de feu Mme. Walden-Pell, présidente honoraire de l'Institut national américain, avec le généreux concours de M. Mounet-Sully, de la Comédie-Française; M. Renaud, de l'Opéra; Du Quatuor Boellmann, des Concerts-Colonne; Mme. Monteux-Barrière, M. Forest, M. Monteux, M. Kifer, Mme. Bataille et Mlle. Courtenay, de l'Opéra-Comique; Mlle. Cécile Talma.

*Première partie.*—Mme. Monteux-Barrière, M. Forest, M. Monteux, M. Kéfer, des Concerts-Colonne: Quatuor (Boellmann), I, Allegro un poco moderato; II, Scherzo; III, Andante; IV, Finale. Mlle. Cécile Talma: Air des clochettes de Lakmé (Delibes). Mme. Monteux-Barrière: Piano. M. Armand Forest, violin solo, de l'Opéra-Comique: Andante (Mendelssohn). Mme. Bataille: Habanera de "Carmen" (Bizet).

*Deuxième partie.*—Lecture du message de M. McKinley, président des États-Unis, concernant l'établissement à Paris de l'Institut national américain. M. Mounet-Sully, de la Comédie-Française: Poésie. Mlle. Courtenay, de l'Opéra-Comique: Air de la flûte enchantée (Mozart). M. Armand Forest, violin solo, de l'Opéra-Comique: (a) Romance (H. Wieniawski); (b) Airs bohémiens (Sarasate). Mme. Bataille: Valse du "Pardon de Ploërmel" (Myerbeer). M. Renaud, de l'Opéra: Chant.

Au piano, Mme. Gayard-Pacini.

[Extract from the New York Herald, October 30, 1900.]

## CONCERT GIVEN ON FRIDAY LAST IN MEMORY OF MRS. WALDEN-PELL.

The concert given by the American National Institute on Friday evening in memory of the late Mrs. Walden-Pell, who was its honorary president, was quite a success.

The institute was highly favored by the presence of M. Mounet-Sully, who was greatly applauded for his marvelous diction, while the other well-known artists, who appeared by the courtesy of the directors of the Opéra and the Opéra-Comique, M. Gailhard and M. Albert Carré, and the Concerts-Colonne, were all appreciated.

The proceedings opened with a quartette exquisitely executed by Mme. Monteux-Barrière, MM. Forest, Monteux, and Kéfer. Then Mlle. Cécile Talma charmed the audience with the "Air des clochettes," from "Lakmé," being accompanied on the piano by Mme. Monteux-Barrière. A violin solo, one of Mendelssohn's andantes, by M. Armand Forest, of the Opéra-Comique, followed, and with contributions by Mme. Bataille and M. Louis Crépeaux, the first part of the programme was brought to a conclusion. The second part of the evening's entertainment began by M. Mounet-Sully, of the Comédie-Française, reciting in his inimitable style "La ballade du désespéré" and "Une soirée perdue." Mlle. Courtenay, of the Opéra-Comique, was much applauded for her rendering of an air from "La flûte enchantée," as was also M. Forest, who played a romance by H. Wieniaski and "Airs bohémiens," by Sarasate. Mme. Bataille gave the waltz from "Le pardon de Ploërmel," and a song by M. Renaud, of the Opéra, brought the concert to a conclusion. Mme. Gayard-Pacini presided at the piano.

The friends of the institute will be pleased to learn that the institute has recently received the following donations: From Messrs. Erard & Co., a grand piano; Messrs. Mason & Hamlin, of Boston, a Liszt organ; Mrs. Goodrich-Ormsby, \$200; also several objects of value from the Californian Commission.

## THANKSGIVING DINNER AT THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

PARIS, November 29, 1901.

*Contributors.*

Mrs. Edwin T. Purnam.  
Miss M. L. Graves.  
P. Gaycard Pacini.  
Mr. and Mrs. F. Andrews.  
H. Chailley.  
Maral Chailley.  
M. Stewart Rothwell.  
Vetha McMillan.  
Fane A. J. Macfarlane.  
Howard McCormick.  
Ennis P. Skidmore.  
Chas. W. Furlong.  
Mr. J. Thornton Wood.  
W. F. Pope.  
Mrs. Humes, 15 rue Auguste Vacquie.

Miss Levey Humes.  
Miss Margaret Humes.  
Mrs. A. P. Gregory.  
Miss Elsie Gregory.  
Miss M. Bernardine Thyson, Washington,  
D. C.  
Thos. F. H. Badjor, Montreal, Canada.  
Jean Lesguier.  
Edmond J. P. Buron.  
S. A. Bolton.  
A. Juliet Howson.  
Geneviève Booth.  
Teresa Tosti Pauger.  
Madame Mathilde Vet.  
Blanche Ogarita Vet.

## AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

[American National Institute, Prix de Paris, autorisé par l'Etat de New York, 9 décembre 1896.]

M—— est prié de bien vouloir assister à la réception, donnée en l'honneur du corps des gardes des Etats-Unis pour l'Exposition universelle 1900, par l'Institut national américain, en son hôtel, 50, avenue d'Iéna (place des Etats-Unis), le lundi, 10 septembre 1900, à 9 heures du soir. Musique.

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris, 50, avenue d'Iéna (place des Etats-Unis).]

RECEPTION, 10 SEPTEMBRE 1900.<sup>a</sup>

*Programme.*—M. Rodolphe Panzer: *a*, "Largo" (Chopin); *b*, "Jour de la Noce" (Grieg). M. Marcel Chailley, du Conservatoire, premier violon solo des concerts Colonne: "Czarda" (Jeno Hubay). Mme. Thérèse Tosti: *a*, "Lehne, deine Wange" (Jensen); *b*, Berceuse (Brahms); *c*, Habanéra de l'opéra "Carmen" (Bizet). M. Rodolphe Panzer: Rhapsodie (Liszt). M. Marcel Chailley: Romance (Svend-sen). Mme. Thérèse Tosti: *a*, Intermezzo de l'opéra "Cavalleria Rusticana" (Mas-cagni); *b*, Variations (Proch). Miss Dana, of Australia, sang by request "Home, Sweet Home."

#### AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

RECEPTION IN HONOR OF THE AMERICAN GUARDS OF THE EXPOSITION, 1900.

At the American National Institute, September 10, 1900 (Prix de Paris).

[From the New York Herald (Paris edition), September 10, 1900.]

The American National Institute was last evening the scene of an interesting event in honor of the United States Guards in connection with the exposition. These gentlemen appeared in full uniform and seemed thoroughly to enjoy the following excellent musical programme: Mr. Rodolphe Panzer, piano; Mr. Marcel Chailley, violin; Mme. Thérèse Tosti, soprano; Miss Dana, of Australia, soprano (see programme attached). A short synopsis of the work of the American National Institute was given, which the guards understood and appreciated, as they are all young men from the different colleges in the United States.

They congratulated the coming generation in having provided for them an institution, which if carried out upon the principles laid down will shorten their term of study and place them on a par with their brothers in art, letters, and science of the Old World.

The buffet was served by young ladies, and after some interesting general conversation the guests took leave of their hosts, feeling that though far from their native land they had for a couple of hours enjoyed the sensation of being again on American ground, for the atmosphere of the institute is eminently calculated to give a feeling of home to all those who step within its doors.

#### LIST OF GUARDS.

Capt. P. L. Bowen.	Glenn, E. R.	McKee, W. M.
Ashelman, Paul.	Glenn, R. A.	Marcel, Henry.
Aldrich, Sherman.	Gorham, L. H.	Nicol, Will.
Brussard, F. S.	Hopkins, Allan.	Nadeau, M. A.
Block, Fred.	Hartigan, A. F.	Pitkin, W. R.
Biers, T. Y.	Harper, S. N.	Rouillard, A. D.
Babcock, Earl.	Jeffris, T. M.	Rickel, Harry.
Burn, C. H.	King, Albert.	Sutton, Mark.
Ballis, Eugene.	Krause, Hugo.	C. Smith, C. B.
Crawford, T. S.	Kerans, Frank.	Sancy, Pierre E. F.
Crummer, E. P.	Limangi, Felix.	Stover, Harry.
Clark, H. E.	Lyman, I. Q.	Stauffer, E. S.
Davison, Herbert.	Lambert, T. O. O.	Skinner, T. C.
Drury, W. H.	Lillard, W. H.	Sparks.
Delattre, E.	McLean, Lester.	Rosiére, Joseph.
Davis, A. D.	Hyers, T. A. H.	Chackwell, Paul.
Flenner, Nerle D. A.	Moran, Thos. H.	Carnowsky, Jacques.
Franklin, H. O.	Muller, Joe.	Waechter, Fred.
Groesbeck, Fred. L.	Marcutte, A. F.	Smith, C.
Greer, E. K.	Manatte, Will.	Welsh, G. P.

<sup>a</sup> In honor of the American guards of the exposition at Paris, 1900.

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris (autorisé—incorporated). 50, avenue d'Iéna (place des Etats-Unis), Paris. Henri von Daur, secrétaire général. Matilda Smedley, directrice-fondatrice générale.]

Vous êtes prié de bien vouloir assister à une réunion qui aura lieu le vendredi 19 octobre 1900, à 5 heures, à l'hôtel provisoire de l'institut, 50, avenue d'Iéna, pour entendre la lecture du dernier message de M. McKinley, Président des Etats-Unis, concernant l'établissement à Paris de l'Institut national américain.

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THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

[From the New York Herald.]

THURSDAY, November 29, 1900.

The Thanksgiving day was celebrated at the American National Institute, 50 avenue d'Iéna. About 40 students have been invited by the patrons of the institute.

The dinner was followed by an informal concert and Thanksgiving addresses.

The evening closed with a vote of thanks to Miss SMEDLEY, the founder of the institute, and to Mrs. JACKSON, the founder of the library, and Mr. von DAUR, the secretary-general, the resolution adding that their mothers would be glad to learn they had enjoyed on French soil a real American Thanksgiving dinner.

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AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

LECTURE BY PROFESSOR MAURICE ALBERT ON THE COMÉDIE FRANÇAISE.

[From the New York Herald, May 3, 1901.]

There was a great number of American students and invited guests at the American National Institute, May 3, to listen to a brilliant lecture of Prof. Maurice Albert, on the Comédie Française. Among those present were his excellency Gen. Horace Porter, ambassador of the United States; Countesse la Molière and daughter; Mr. Felix Herbert, maire of the sixth arrondissement; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Dubois; Marquis and Marquise de Castrone; Duc de Pamar; Mr. César Caire; Mr. Sully-Prudhomme; Mr. Charles Richet; Mr. Gaston Paris, rector of the Collège de France; Mr. Hollman Black; Mr. Franc Hollmann; Mr. and Mrs. Vignaud; Mr. Weeks; Mr. Bridgman, etc.

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AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris, autorisé par l'Etat de New York, 9 décembre 1895.]

Vous êtes prié de bien vouloir assister à la conférence, avec auditions, sur la "musique hongroise," de M. ALEXANDRE DE BERTHA, avec le gracieux concours de M<sup>lles</sup> E. M. GIGNOUX, DE IERLIN, DE FONTJOYEUSE et ELISA TOTIS, vendredi, 31 mai 1901, à 5 heures, à l'hôtel provisoire de l'institut, 50, avenue d'Iéna.

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LECTURE WITH AUDITIONS ON HUNGARIAN MUSIC BY THE FAMOUS COMPOSER  
ALEXANDRE DE BERTHA.

[Communicated.]

FRIDAY, May 31, 1901.

The lecture delivered on Friday last by Alexandre de Bertha on Hungarian music attracted a large and distinguished audience composed of a great number of American students and the élite of the American colony and Parisians. M. de Bertha began his lecture by saying that it gave him great pleasure to have accepted the invitation



of Miss Smedley and Mr. von Daur to give a causerie at the American National Institute, knowing that our mutual friend M. Sully-Prudhomme was one of our first patrons and had presided at the inauguration of this institute. That also because Hungarians are very fond of America. \* \* \*

Like a well-illustrated book the lecture advanced with a large number of compositions to explain the interesting text with historical and ethnographic references of profound knowledge. Mlle. M. E. Gignoux, the eminent composer and pianist, Mlle. de Jerlin, the well-known soprano, Mlle. de Fontjoyeuse, one of the best pupils of Miss Gignoux, and a young and talented violinist of Hungary, Mlle. Elsa Totis, brilliantly supported the distinguished lecturer and received great applause from the audience.

The 19th and 26th of April, 1901, two concerts given for the benefit of two young American girl students with a profit of 2,000 francs in order to help them to return to the States. Miss Blanche Ogarita Vet, pianist, and Miss Coralie Jacqueline Vet, violinist, Mr. Coquelin, cadet, of the Comédie Française, and Miss Relda, of the Opéra-Comique, have graciously consented to give their concours.

#### PROGRAMMES.

*Premier concert, 19 avril.*—Mlles. Vet: Sonate, opus 62, violon et piano—allegro, scherzo, adagio, finale (René Brancour). Mlle. B. O. Vet: Prélude et fugue, en la mineur (Bach-Liszt). Mlle. C. J. Vet: Concerto (allegro), opus 26 (Max Bruch). M. Coquelin, cadet: Monologues. Mlle. B. O. Vet: *a*, "Deuxième Rhapsodie" (Brahms); *b*, Menuet de "l'Arlésienne" (Bizet); *c*, Staccato caprice (Vogrich). Mlle. C. J. Vet: *a*, Aria (sur la corde de sol) (Bach); *b*, Introduction et Rondo capriccioso (Saint-Saëns). M. Félix Hughes: *a*, Air de "Serse" (Händel); *b*, "Carmen" (air du Toréador) (Bizet). Mlle. B. O. Vet: *a*, "Whins" (Schumann); *b*, Légende (Paderewski); *c*, Polonaise, opus 53 (Chopin).

*Deuxième concert, le vendredi 26 avril, 1901.*—Mlles. Vet: Sonate, en ut mineur, piano et violon—allegro, allegretto, finale (E. Grieg). Mlle. B. O. Vet: *a*, Nocturne (Paderewski); *b*, "Caprice pour la Reine Mab," dédié à Mlle. B. O. Vet (René Brancour); *c*, Petite valse, No. 3, dédié à Mlle. B. O. Vet (A. Strelezki); *d*, Prélude (Chopin); *e*, Etude (Chopin). Mlle. Rose Relda: Chansons (X.). Mlle. C. J. Vet: *a*, Réverie (Marsick); *b*, Scherzo, dédié à Mlle. C. J. Vet, accompagné par l'auteur (René Brancour); *c*, "La Mouche" (Bohm). Mlle. B. O. Vet: *a*, "Un sospiro" (Liszt); *b*, "Sixième Rhapsodie" (Liszt). Mlle. Rose Relda: Chansons (X.). Mlle. C. J. Vet: Rondo capriccioso (Saint-Saëns).

#### AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS.

[American National Institute. Prix de Paris (autorisé—incorporated). Miss Matilda Smedley, directrice fondatrice générale, Henri von Daur, secrétaire général.]

Vous êtes prié de bien vouloir assister à la soirée musicale et littéraire du jeudi 20 mars 1902. Audition d'œuvres de Mlle. M. E. GIGNOUX et de M. SAINT-CHAMARAND, Hôtel provisoire de l'Institut national américain, 50 avenue d'Iéna. 9 heures précises. Habit de soirée.

#### SOIRÉE DU 20 MARS 1902.

Audition d'œuvres de Mlle. M. E. Gignoux et de M. Saint-Chamarand avec le gracieux concours de Mme. Georgette Valdys, de l'Opéra-Comique; Mme. Astruc-Doria, Mlles. Charlotte Mutel, Jeanne Bloch et Fonlupt, MM. Ch. Morel, de Clynsen; Anemoyanni, Aigre, de la Haulte, des Concerts-Lamoureux.

*Programme.*—Par l'auteur: Préludes en ut mineur, en ut dièse mineur, en ut majeur (M. E. Gignoux). M. Ch. Morel: "Voix intérieure," "Madrigal" (M. E. Gignoux). Mme. Astruc-Doria: *a*, Sérénade (M. E. Gignoux); *b*, "Chanson du Chevalier Errant," Victor Hugo (M. E. Gignoux). M. Anemoyanni: Ballade (M. E. Gignoux). Mlle. Charlotte Mutel: "Minuit" (Saint-Chamarand); "Idylle fleurie et poudrée" (Saint-Chamarand). Mme. Georgette Valdys, M. Anemoyanni: "Nuit d'été" (M. E. Gignoux). Mme. Astruc-Doria, M. de Clynsen, Idylle guerrière, François Cazale

(M. E. Gignoux). Mme. Georgette Valdys, Mmes. J. Bloch, Fonlupt, MM. Anemoyanni, de la Haulle: Pantoum malais, Saint-Chamarand (M. E. Gignoux). Par l'auteur: Poésies (Saint-Chamarand). M. Aigre: *a*, "A l'aube; *b*, Presto (M. E. Gignoux). Par l'auteur: "Romance sans paroles" (M. E. Gignoux); second impromptu (M. E. Gignoux). Mlle. Charlotte Mutel, l'auteur: Hymne (Saint-Chamarand). Mme. Georgette Valdys: Dans un missel, Lancelin (M. E. Gignoux).

*Eglogue*.—Poésie de M. Saint-Chamarand, Musique de M. E. Gignoux, chantée par Mme. Astruc-Doria, M. Ch. Morel et les chœurs.

[From the New York Herald.]

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE,  
50 Avenue d'Iena at Paris.

There was a very brilliant musical soirée at the American National Institute last Thursday, the 20th of March, 1902.

The evening was entirely consecrated to the compositions of a very talented young French composer, Mademoiselle M. E. Gignoux, and her brother, known through his nom de plume, Saint-Chamarand.

In the absence of Miss Smedley, who is in America to represent the work at Congress, Mr. von Daur, the secretary-general and Mrs. von Daur, received the guests.

Among the artists who supported Miss Gignoux by rendering her work were: Madame Georgette Valdys, of the Opera Comique; Mademoiselle Connelly, Madame Astruc-Doria, Mlles. Charlotte Mutel, Jeanne Bloch, and Fonlupt, MM. Ch. Morel, de Clyncen, Anemoyanni, Aigre, and de la Hauble.

The distinguished audience consisted of the élite of American students and many members of the American colony, and the Parisian society.

#### AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

[Secrétaire général de l'Institut national américain.]

The committee of the American National Institute invites Mr. ——— to a New Year's dinner at the restaurant Vefour jeune, galerie de Valais, 105 à 111, Palais Royal, Sunday, January 4, 1903, at 1 o'clock p. m. precisely.

An immediate answer to Mr. Henri von Daur, secretary-general of the American National Institute, Sèvres, S. et O., Villa Brimborion, is requested.

N. B.—In case of acceptance this invitation must be presented at the restaurant.

#### AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE AT PARIS, FRANCE.

[American National Institute—Paris Prize.]

NEW YEAR'S DINNER, SUNDAY, THE 4TH, 1903.

*Menu*.—Potage St. Germain; bœuf braisé à la mode; céleri en branche; pomme à l'anglaise; dinde rôtie au cresson; cranberry sauce; mince pie; carte Palais Elysée; vin Macon et Chablis.

[Extract from The Figaro on the New Year's dinner of the American National Institute, Sunday, January 4, 1903.]

Sous les auspices du comité de l'Institut national américain un dîner de Nouvel An a été offert, dimanche dernier, chez Vefour jeune, du Palais Royal, à bon nombre de jeunes étudiants de la colonie américaine à Paris.

En l'absence de Mlle. Smedley, fondatrice de l'Institut, qui est depuis un an en Amérique pour les besoins de la cause, c'est Monsieur Henri von Daur, le secrétaire général, qui a présidé ce dîner.

Après le repas, qui a revêtu un caractère tout-à-fait familial, Monsieur von Daur a expliqué aux jeunes gens, en quelques mots bien choisis, la raison d'être de cette œuvre et les bienfaits qu'elle est destinée à leur offrir. Ils les a exhortés en même temps à apprécier à sa plus haute valeur le généreux patronage des grands maîtres français. Son discours a été très applaudi et on a bu ensuite à la santé de Mlle. Smedley et des nombreux amis et bienfaiteurs de l'œuvre. La soirée s'est terminée par quelques recitations en français et en anglais.

Under the auspices of the committee of the American National Institute, Prix de Paris, a New Year's dinner was given to the American students of Paris at the Restaurant Véfour jeune, Palais Royal, Sunday, January 4, 1903.

In the absence of Miss Smedley, the founder, being in America in the interest of the work, the dinner was presided over by Mr. Henry von Daur, the secretary-general.

After the dinner Mr. von Daur, in a short address, explained to the students and invited guests the real purpose of the institute and its many advantages. He exhorted the young men to appreciate the great value of the distinguished patronage of France's great masters, who have assured their cooperation to the high advantage of their instruction. He proposed a toast to the health of the French jury and patrons and to Miss Smedley, the founder of the institute, just now in Washington occupied in obtaining the sanction of Congress, and further expressed thanks to our generous friends who have made this fête possible.

His speech was warmly applauded and answered by several invited guests.

The evening ended with some select recitations in French and English.

Among the guests of honor invited by the committee were Mr. Herbert W. Faulkner, vice-president of the American Art Association; Mr. Herbert Butler, of the committee of the American Art Association; Mr. Saint-Chamarand, French poet; Mr. Theodor Wm. Peters, American poet, and a great number of students.

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[New York Herald, April 18, 1899.]

MRS. WALDEN PELL.

*To the Editor of the Herald:*

I have the honor to inform you, and beg your most valuable paper to make mention, that by special appointment Mrs. Walden Pell, of the American National Institute, has been nominated "officier d'Académie" by his excellency the ministre de l'instruction publique et des beaux-arts.

The distinction is not only an honor to Mrs. Walden Pell, but to the whole body of our organization, the American National Institute, Prix de Paris, and in the name of our committee we congratulate our distinguished honorary president.

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STATEMENTS BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, SENATE,  
RELATING TO THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

[Extracts.]

WASHINGTON, 1902.

Senator ALLISON (*Chairman*).

Senator DEPEW. Some years ago Miss Smedley, Governor Chamberlain, of Maine, the rector of the great church at the head of which Mr. King used to be, and others, came to see me and asked me to take an interest in the matter of an American institute in Paris to take care of the students who go there. Going abroad every year and having quite a number of relatives living in Paris, I happened to know a good deal of the terrible conditions which prevail there with regard to about 3,000 American students who are always there. They go from all parts of the United States, boys and girls, without knowing anything of France or the conditions of the French capital. They have very little money; they have no friends, and generally they do not understand the language, but they go to study art and music. They go into the Latin quarter and fall into very bad associations, and the result is that many of them are lost to their families, to their country, and to the world. They never get back here.

Various efforts have been made by Americans resident there to remedy this difficulty, but they have never gone very far or amounted to much. The relief afforded has been only temporary, because the students had no funds, and the people who took the interest were themselves only temporarily there.

Miss Smedley undertook this plan some years ago, and after she had perfected her scheme and made some progress with it she came to New York and interested these people, who came to see me. Then I looked into it and thought it was an admirable thing, and began to give some attention to it myself.

Miss Smedley thought that she could interest the French Government and the French National Academy; and I told her that if she could do so I thought there would be some reciprocity or some recognition of it on the part of the United States. The result of her efforts was that a large number of the leading artists and literary men of France gave their adhesion to the scheme. Then the municipal

council of Paris took up the matter, and on the presentation of these Frenchmen, who are so highly respected because of their distinguished position in the art and literary world of France, the municipal council donated to this institute a plot of ground valued, I think, somewhere in the neighborhood of \$200,000. This was done with French enthusiasm, with the idea of showing the appreciation of the municipality of Paris of the fact that so many American students come to Paris instead of going to Berlin or Vienna or elsewhere to study. It was done also on the old theory, which is very strong over there, of Lafayette and the two Republics, and of a certain reciprocity between them in sentiment, at all events.

The municipality of Paris and all these distinguished Frenchmen—and I met quite a number of them when there—supposed that their action would be hailed with enthusiasm on this side and there would be a reciprocal response in the nature of putting a building upon this ground, which would herald to the world the new relations which had been established, in the sympathy on the one side and the recognition on the other of the help that was needed for these American boys and girls who were in Paris studying art and music under the great masters who can be found only there.

Miss Smedley brought this matter to the attention of President McKinley, and it resulted in his transmitting to Congress on May 23, 1900, a message, in which Secretary of State Hay said:

"I transmit herewith, with a view to its submission to Congress, should you deem that course proper, copy of a letter of March 28, 1900, with its several accompaniments, from Miss Matilda Smedley, founder and director-general, in regard to the proposed American National Institute at Paris. On this point Miss Smedley says:

"I need only remark that the French Government not only has granted a valuable site on which to erect suitable buildings in the city of Paris for the purpose indicated, but that it has made it possible that such a structure as you have so worthily stated 'to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American National Institute for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study' shall remain forever free from taxation."

Upon that subject President McKinley said, in his annual message of 1898:

"The United States Government building is approaching completion, and no efforts will be spared to make it worthy, in beauty of architectural plan and in completeness of display, to represent our nation. It has been suggested that a permanent building of similar or appropriate design be erected on a convenient site, already given by the municipality near the exposition grounds, to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American National Institute for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study."

After that message was sent to Congress—I had never seen the President theretofore—I went to see President McKinley, in company with Miss Smedley and the French ambassador, Jules Cambon. The French ambassador explained to the President the feelings of the French Government and the municipality of Paris on this subject, and Mr. McKinley expressed the greatest anxiety that in connection with the exposition and as part of the American contribution there should remain a permanent building upon the ground donated by the city of Paris for the students who should go from America to Paris.

#### AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS), *Paris, le 6 février, 1900.*

The French committee met at the House of the institute, 50 avenue d'Iéna, on February 6, 1900, at 6 p. m.

Present: M. Félix, Herbet, avocat à la Cour d'appel, maire du 6<sup>me</sup> arrondissement (Beaux-Arts); M. Y. de Heredia, de l'Académie Française; M. Emile Soldi-Colbert, auteur de la Langue Sacrée; M. Sully-Prudhomme, de l'Académie Française; M. Charles Richet, M. D. professeur de la Faculté de médecine, membre de l'Institut; M. Henri von Daur, secretary-general of the institute; Miss Matilda Smedley, founder-director-general.

#### ORDER OF THE MEETING.

Reading of telegrams and letters of regret from Messrs. Léon Cléry, Massenet, Benjamin Constant, Mmes. Dumont, Breton, and Mrs. James Jackson on account of absence or illness.

Expressions of regret at the death of Mrs. Walden Pell, honorary president of the institute.

Opening of the meeting, followed by a retrospective account of the work from December, 1892.

## AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS).

1. Opening of the meeting by Miss Smedley, interpreted by the secretary-general, M. Henri von Daur.

Expression of gratitude for the generous support of the distinguished members of our French committee.

2. Notes on the history of the institute. Miss Smedley spoke first of the work at Mme. de Morsier's house before a gathering of distinguished women who would have wished it to be international, but in spite of this Miss Smedley has strictly adhered to her first conviction.

The first real meeting of the work was held in the drawing-room of the late Mrs. Walden Pell, who was its first patron, and subscribed \$1,000. The next meeting was held at Mme. de Morsier's on January 15, 1895, when it was decided that the persons present considered it their pleasure and duty to give their approval and intellectual support to the scheme of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris).

Among these persons the late Mme. de Morsier and Messrs. Herbet and Laisney were the foremost, and at this point Miss Smedley expressed to these gentlemen her grateful thanks for their valuable support, as also to M. Léon Cléry.

On the following Saturday Miss Smedley sailed for America, carrying with her this signed declaration for the purpose of organizing and incorporating the scheme, which she accomplished on December 9, 1896, under the laws of the State of New York, and on December 16 the board of trustees of the institute met at the house of the Hon. Chauncey M. Depew.

The meeting was opened by the learned Dr. Charles F. Hoffmann. After the transaction of business, the work that Miss Smedley had accomplished was discussed and accepted. She was unanimously authorized to continue her efforts and to receive subscriptions for the building as well as for the endowment of the institute.

The next meeting was held in Paris, at Mrs. Walden Pell's.

Here the minutes were introduced.

All this time Miss Smedley never lost sight of making the work national, and in March of the following year she again sailed for the United States, carrying with her, together with a letter from the prefect of police, showing that at the proper moment the work would be declared of public utility, the evidence of contributions (as per paper introduced) artistic, musical, and literary, with the determination of putting it before the Government, and did so, as per petition attached.

The success of her first efforts seemed doubtful, but she was convinced that a resolution signed by such well-known personalities as the following (copy attached) would ultimately secure the end in view.

With this conviction she returned to Paris, whither the secretary-general, M. Henri von Daur, had already proceeded. He, as a foreigner and familiar with the best schools of Europe, had at once seen the necessity for this great work and joined his efforts to hers.

The final result had been just what she anticipated, as is shown by the quotation from President McKinley's message.

Secretary Hay's letter and that of Senator Davis. (Copies attached.)

A petition was formulated by the secretary-general and Miss Smedley to the prefect of the Seine and Municipal Council of Paris to secure a concession of the ground upon which to build the institute.

3. The result of this petition follows, shown by the report of M. Clairin upon the meeting of December 27, 1889, and on the next day's vote of the municipal council of Paris. (Report attached.)

4. There was a discussion of the future of the institute and declaration that up to the present time it was an undoubted success, opening up new interests in the arts and letters to American students under the best conditions to insure the preservation of real talent and genius.

Miss Smedley had made a thorough study of the principles upon which the Prix de Rome had been founded, which made Paris the center of activity in art for the whole world. In this search she had realized that the fundamental evil in her own country was the absence of an organized censorship, and that America could only build up a Beaux-Arts at home by sending to this country her genius and talent already prepared under the proper conditions. She saw that to succeed the institute must be supported by public interest. She therefore tried to acquaint the public of the necessity of its existence, and to enlist the public of two nations her first effort had been to secure their leaders.

5. Discussion of the plan for the building, to be competed for either by French architects or French and American ones, as decided by the home committee.

6. Discussion of site, as to convenience, sanitary arrangements, etc.

7. Financial report from the beginning read and indorsed. (Report attached.)

8. Question of new circular discussed, to be published at an early date.

9. Inspection of the present house, most appropriately situated exactly facing the place des États-Unis, and put into thorough repair, with furnace, bathroom, and gas. A lecture salon has been added, with seating capacity for 200. There is a garden, with smaller building containing the studios, music, and class rooms.

10. Suggestion for the mode of application for the students.

It was decided that the school year begin on October 1, but that in the meantime the use of the house be allowed to students and teachers from April 1.

11. The members present expressed their satisfaction and admiration of the house and its arrangements, and especially of the emblem of the institute, composed and executed by M. Henri von Daur, the secretary-general. They also expressed their lively appreciation of M. von Daur's valuable services in helping to secure the ground, and his devotion to the cause for the last three years, with their wishes for the continuation of his good offices.

12. Reading of the letter addressed to President McKinley by the secretary-general, M. von Daur. (Copy attached.)

13. Expression of gratitude to Mrs. James Jackson, founder of the library, to Mrs. Frank Leslie, to Baroness von Zedwitz, and Baroness Seillière, as contributors to the scholarship fund.

14. Expression of satisfaction at the adhesion of so many illustrious names of France to the board of council.

M. Clairin's name was proposed and voted as a member of the committee.

15. Mention of Miss Smedley's departure for America to present to President McKinley the resolution attached, and reading of same. As also to make the incorporation a national one, and to formulate and put into operation a plan for State scholarships. Furthermore, to call in all the moneys already privately subscribed, and solicit further cash donations in order to maintain the present house and carry on the administrative business during the construction of the greater building.

The inauguration of the present house to take place upon Miss Smedley's return.

16. A vote of thanks to the press for its warm support, and congratulation to Miss Smedley for the success of her seven years' efforts.

To quote the words of M. Charles Richet: "This work is ideal, but an accomplished fact, which, while it was rendering valuable service to America, was crowning France with glory."

The meeting closed with good wishes to Miss Smedley for a safe journey and speedy return, and signing the following declaration:

#### DECLARATION.

The undersigned, met together on the 6th day of February, 1900, at 4.30 p. m., in the house of the direction of the American National Institute, hereby declare that it is their duty and pleasure to decide by the present resolution that Miss Smedley on leaving Paris place in the hands of her brother-in-law, M. Henri von Daur, secretary-general of said institute, the original signatures of the persons who have given their approbation of the measures taken in the establishing of the American National Institute, carrying with her a certified copy of the same.

The undersigned further declare that, as the branch committee in Paris, they are ready to continue their cooperation with the American committee for the regular progress of the work of which Miss Smedley is the founder and director.

Paris, February 6, 1900.

SULLY-PRUDHOMME,  
*De l'Académie Française.*

F. M. DE HEREDIA,  
*De l'Académie Française.*

EMILE SOLDI-COLBERT,  
*Auteur de la Langue Sacrée.*

F. HERBET,

*Avocat à la Cour d'appel, maire du 6<sup>me</sup> arrondissement (Beaux-Arts).*

CHARLES RICHEL, M. D.,  
*Professeur de la Faculté de médecine, membre de l'Institut.*

HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General of the American National Institute.*

Upon which Miss Smedley expressed her grateful appreciation of all that France, and the members of the French council and committee in particular, had done for the progress of the institute, and the honor conferred upon the work by having among these members M. Jules Cambon, representative of France to her country. Her country's appreciation could not be better expressed than by the quotations

from President McKinley's message and from Senator Davis's and Secretary Hay's letters. (Attached.)

In carrying the evidence of the work to America Miss Smedley leaves behind her a veritable host of illustrious supporters to cooperate in the best possible way for the completion of the final result—the greater building of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris).

[Close of the public hearing.]

#### EXTRACT FROM REPORT ON SUNDRY CIVIL APPROPRIATION BILL.

[Preliminary house, 56 avenue d'Iéna, Paris, France.]

Ten applicants sent by the United States embassy placed, according to their requirements, in the different schools and colleges, one only being admitted into the preliminary house.

During the existence of the preliminary house at least 150 applications were made by foreign students, but Miss Smedley and the secretary-general, M. Henri von Daur, have strictly adhered to the national character of the work.

In addition to the gifts already mentioned in the former reports, amounting to \$150,000, the firm of Erard & Co. have contributed a grand piano.

Form and material for a new circular ready and quite necessary to meet the demand for information concerning the institute. (Financial report attached.)

Eight concerts given to July 15, 1901, 6 lectures up to same date, 3 dinners to students, 8 evenings for students, with refreshments, 4 students housed gratuitously, 35 young men entered their names as competitors for the Paris prize—Prix de Paris.

Students attending Julian's Academy granted reduction of one-third. In music and all other branches of education the same reduction has been made.

Two students granted free tuition, one for music, one for sculpture.

The sculpture student, Mr. Schouhardt, exhibited in the Salon, 1901, received a free scholarship from Mr. Ernest Dubois, sculptor. The studies of the music student, Miss Bell, enabled her to secure a lucrative engagement on her return home.

One art student, Miss Howson, at Julian's Academy, carried off a prize.

Eight teachers from America entered as students during the months of July, August, and part of September, 1901. [Letters attached, showing the benefit they received.]

Second school year opened in October, 1901, with return of the young men already mentioned and three girl students.

A month later three more girl students entered—one for dramatic art—all enjoying the reduction of terms as in the foregoing year.

Two hundred first-class concert tickets sent to the institute from the first empresarios.

Free entertainments corresponding to 1900.

One student young man saved from committing suicide—given three months at the institute.

One student sent home through charity.

During the last six months 120 students coming from America refused admittance as falling short of the required standard.

Concert given for two young ladies; the proceeds (\$400) helped them to continue their studies.

Four thousand visitors since the opening.

The foregoing has been enjoyed by the preliminary house, October 1, 1901, beginning of the second school year, and is now doing the same work at this date, January 2, 1902.

But for the invaluable and untiring efforts and devotion of M. Henri von Daur, the secretary-general, many of the difficulties could not have been overcome. The youths of America owe him a lasting gratitude.

Three thousand citizens of the United States have indorsed the work.

A special feature of the institute is the French language, taught after the newest and most rational methods.

As all studies in the institute will naturally be in the French language, it has been considered advisable to adopt it as the language of the institute. This study is free, and insisted upon after a certain time.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY SCHOLARSHIPS.

In addition to the three years' scholarship, a supplementary scholarship for a year's study in Rome, Venice, or Vienna to be founded, which will enable our laureate students to continue their studies in other art centers of Europe.

These scholarships will be awarded after due competition and under special regulations.

Music, architectural, and archeological students will be allowed, after the completion of their three years' tuition in Paris, a voyage to such countries as would best advance and complete their special studies.

M. Henri von Daur, the secretary-general of the American National Institute, was delegated last summer (1901) to establish correspondence with the directors and other proper authorities of the foreign art establishments with the intent of insuring their cooperation to this effect.

M. von Daur visited Venice and Vienna, and by the following report we are very happy to testify to the cordial support he met with in these two cities:

In Venice M. von Daur had the honor of being received by Cavaliere Giulio Cantalamessa, director of the royal galleries of this city. He also obtained interviews with Antonio dal Zotto, director of the Royal Institute of Fine Arts of Venice, and with Commander Nicolo Barozzi, director of the Archeological Museum at the Palace of the Doges. M. von Daur is proud to state that these gentlemen showed him every consideration with regard to his mission, and declared themselves ready to do everything in their power to further the progress of those American students who had proved themselves worthy to continue their studies in the respective art schools of Venice. Proper guidance and every facility for study will be insured to them. They will be granted free entrance to all lectures and to the galleries, with permission to make copies in the latter.

In fact they will enjoy the same privileges as in Paris.

M. von Daur received from Commendatore Ferdinando Ongania, the well-known Venice editor, the assurance that he would present to the institute a copy of his great work entitled "Monograph of the Basilica of St. Mark." The work is unique and universally admired by all competent authorities. It will certainly be highly appreciated by our art students and especially by those studying architecture.

Professor dal Zotto, who is the proprietor of the photographic publishing house "Naya," has promised to give us a collection of interesting photo-engravings representing the most celebrated architectural monuments of Venice.

Through the great courtesy of Mr. Henry Vignaud, first secretary to our embassy in Paris, Mr. von Daur obtained introductions to his excellency Mr. Robert McCormick, United States ambassador to Vienna. Mr. McCormick, with full appreciation of the usefulness of our work, immediately offered his influence on its behalf, with introductions to Prof. Caspar Ritter von Zumbusch, rector of the T. R. Academy of Fine Arts; to Mr. Richard von Perger, director of the Vienna Conservatory of Music and Dramatic Art; to Dr. Jacop Schipper; R. R. Hafroth (I. R. councilor of the court), rector of the I. R. University of Vienna.

The celebrated sculptor, Professor von Zumbusch, with great solicitude, introduced Mr. von Daur to Professor Hellmer, his successor at the academy, and also to Mr. von Stadler, one of the heads of the department for public instruction and public worship, and to Mr. von Wiener, court councilor and referee for the Austrian Government in all matters concerning the conservatory of music.

After explaining to these gentlemen the great aim and purpose of our Paris institute, Mr. von Daur, in view of the proposed year of study in Vienna, asked them for their generous support and collaboration, and was gratified to receive from one and all the assurance of their cooperation for the full benefit of our students.

Circulars and prospectuses of the lectures at the university, with the rules for admission of the conservatory of music and of the academy of fine arts, have been placed at our disposal for the archives of the American National Institute.

*Executive committee.*—Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, chairman; Hon. John D. Crimmins, Miss Caroline de Forest, Rev. E. Walpole Warren, Gen. Joshua L. Chamberlain, Miss Matilda Smedley, ex officio; Count von Daur, ex officio.

*Members of the French committee, Paris.*—M. Félix Herbet, avocat à la Cour d'appel, maire du 5<sup>me</sup> arrondissement; M. Léon Cléry, avocat à la Cour d'appel; M. Charles Richet, professeur à la Faculté de médecine; M. Antony Ratier, sénateur, avoué au Tribunal de la Seine; Miss Matilda Smedley, Henri von Daur, ex officio.

For all official correspondence address M. Henry Vignaud, honorary member of the committee, first secretary of the United States embassy, 59 rue Gaillée, Paris.

A petition to the President of the United States of America by 100 students, wishing to compete for the prize.

Also a general petition to have the printed Official Document 398, State Department, carried out as first desired.

All committees, trustees, patrons, and jurors express their heartiest approval by the help they have given the secretary-general, Hon. von Daur, and Miss Smedley, the founder, who is sailing January 4 for the United States on the *St. Louis*.

The relation of the institute with the United States embassy is shown by the letters attached.



The committee and jurors wish Miss Smedley a safe journey across the ocean, a successful termination of her visit to Washington in behalf of the students, and a speedy return.

What answer are we to give the French authorities—officials, literary, artists, sculptors, architects, musicians—who have for five years given their support and approval to this institution, as is stated in the declaration presented to Mr. McKinley, signed by the most illustrious men of France, to say nothing of the advantages to our country and its student life—the gift of art—too numerous to mention, the first masters in many cases not charging anything for their teaching, and in all cases at a great reduction of price?

This enterprise originated with and has been promoted by Mathilde Smedley.

Under the patronage of Mrs. Walden Pell, Lady Caithness, Duchesse de Pomar, Mme. de Morsier, Mme. Bogelot, Comtesse de la Rochefoucauld, and others. Mrs. Pell began a subscription in its support.

The following names appear on the list of contributors:

Mrs. Walden Pell.	General Butterfield.	Miss Bryant.
Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt.	Mrs. Corbin.	Mr. C. de Tour.
Comtesse de Casa Miranda	Mrs. Richard Corbin.	Comtesse de Kergorlay.
(Mme. Christine Nils- son).	Mr. Paul Bagnotti.	Mrs. Bryden.
Mme. Armand Heine.	Tiffany & Co.	Mrs. Butterworth.
Mme. Michel Heine.	Baronne Adolphe de	Mrs. Stewart.
Lady Caithness, Duchesse	Rothschild.	Mme. Charles B. Alexan- der.
de Pomar, annual con- tributor.	Baronne Seilliére.	Mrs. Cullen Brewster.
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 Tiffany, C. L.  
 Tipton, Mrs.  
 Trask, Theo. F.  
 Townsend, Robt.  
 Townsend, Rev. A. D. S.  
 Tousey, John M.  
 Thomas, M. Louise.  
 Theridertmark, Charles Herman.

Taintor, Mrs. J. E.  
 Taylor, Mr. et Mrs. Glenn.  
 Taylor, Miss.  
 Titherington, Richard H.  
 Tounson, Mrs. John.  
 Tomkins, Rev. Geo.  
 Tewksbury, Mrs. J. A.  
 Tompson, Mrs. Alice A.  
 Teed, Arthur.  
 Tufts, M. H. A.  
 Underhill, Gertrude Colden.  
 Upjohn, R. M.  
 Van Zandt, Ada.  
 Vanchers, Mrs. J.  
 Von Inten, F.  
 Vail, Cornella.  
 Vantine, A. A., & Co.  
 Van Arsdale, W., LL. D.  
 Vassar, C. M.  
 Van Hoose, Ellison.  
 Van Salisbury, Jenette E.  
 Van Swarthout.  
 Vrudenburghs, S.  
 Vingut, Mrs. Georges T.  
 West, Mrs. Chas. H.  
 Wallace, Mrs. J.  
 Woodfin, Mrs. J. W.  
 Webb, Alex. S.  
 Wright, Laura M.  
 White, Seth.  
 Warren, Whitney, architect.  
 Wilhelm, R., photographer.  
 Wright, C. J.  
 Wietham, May Josephine.  
 Whire, M. I., architect.  
 Whitfield, Miss.  
 Williamson, Maude R.  
 Wood, Alice L. H.  
 Witt, Elizabeth de.  
 Watts, Annie L.  
 Wood, Thomas H.  
 Warner, O. L.  
 Wood, E. C.  
 Wright, Mrs.  
 Wright, Laura M. D.  
 Whittemore, E. M.  
 Whittemore, Sidney.

Wright, Mrs. C. J.  
 Werringthry, Anna.  
 Winthrop, Buchanan.  
 Woodfort, Edward.  
 Wilson, Edgar T.  
 Warren, Mrs. E. Walpole.  
 Ward, J. Q.  
 Waling, Ludovic.  
 Whitlock, Miss.  
 Whackim, Miss.  
 Wood, Mrs. and Miss.  
 Walbyfelder, Alice.  
 Wells, Mr. T. A.  
 Wincler, A. H.  
 Wilcox, Fordine P.  
 Willcox, G. M.  
 Mard, Edgar M.  
 Widmeyer, Mr.  
 Weber, Albert J.  
 Watson, H.  
 White, Clarence B.  
 Wheeler, E. P.  
 Withington, Mrs. Caro Lloyd.  
 Warren, Miss Mary.  
 Wickhan, Mrs. Kendal.  
 Zogbaum, Rufus Fairchild.  
 Yong, Mrs. Edward Lee.  
 The Max Williams Company, J. H.  
     Jordan, treasurer.  
 Wayward, Mrs. R. L.  
 Woodward, H. R.  
 Wyes, Mrs.  
 Vail, C. Van Rensselaer.  
 Friedenburg, D.  
 Fleishman, J.  
 Casson, J. P.  
 Youmans, Ephraim M.  
 Augustine, F.  
 George, Charles H.  
 Simes, Mrs.  
 Theodore, Stanton.  
 Forget, A., general agent of the Trans-  
     atlantic French Line.  
 Garber, Dorris.  
 W. Windham, British consul-general to  
     Spain.



## Une bénédiction pour l'Amérique.

Louise Massenet.  
 Jean de Reszké.  
 Edouard de Reszké.  
 Willy Shultz.  
 Guy d'Ardelot.  
 Léon Bourgeois, O.  
 Durand Ruel.  
 Andæe Truvie, J. R. C.  
 Madame Billing Sere.  
 Baron et Baronne de l'Eplee.  
 Baron Seillière.  
 Lydia R. Hinsdale.  
 Mrs. A. Keiner.  
 Mrs. Emmeline Kluney.  
 James G. Hanoud.  
 A. Cruoneau.  
 Baron Hottinguer.  
 Comtesse Soltyk.  
 Paul M. Riera Sen.  
 James J. Burrows.  
 M. V. de Merems.  
 Mrs. A.-N. Champlin.  
 The Misses Wylds.  
 Ancedia D. Kalpère.  
 Edward B. Drew.  
 Com. I. M. G. Customs Chila. chargé  
 d'affaires to viceroy of China while  
 in America.  
 Louls de Morsler.  
 P. Naville, administrateur de la Banque  
 impériale ottomane.

Docteur Henri Lefèvre.  
 Francis Viele Griffin, Franco-American  
 poet.  
 Léon Jancey, du Théâtre national de  
 l'Odéon.  
 Paul Rognon.  
 Faure, de l'Opéra.  
 Jules Claretie, C., administrateur de la  
 Comédie-Française.  
 Mrs. L. B. Japh.  
 Miss Rivers.  
 Gordon Batchelor.  
 J. H. Richardson.  
 A. Mercier, Statuaire, membre de l'In-  
 stitut.  
 Ferdinand Gueldry.  
 Docteur Gododichzel.  
 Ch. Herman de Hundenuak.  
 H. Perrault.  
 Paul Bogelot, avocat.  
 G. Bogelot, avocat à la Cour d'appel  
 Edmond Schuré.  
 Mathilde Schuré.  
 Ludovic de Caley.  
 M. L. Gagner.  
 G. Bonet-Maury.  
 Henri Bernestell.  
 A. Saudon.  
 Comtesse Batowska.  
 C. de Grandval.

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**SUPPLEMENT TO SENATE DOCUMENT 167 IN  
RELATION TO THE AMERICAN NATIONAL  
INSTITUTE, PRIX DE PARIS.**

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Setting forth the continued interest of the public and the evidence of the French authorities of the good will and readiness to act in behalf of the benefaction. The offer of ground stands good, as it did when the late President McKinley accepted the maps of the fourteen sites to select from.

#### INCORPORATORS' RESOLUTIONS FOR FUTURE WORK, APRIL, 1909.

The founder is instructed to visit Washington to meet President Taft and submit to him the basic work of the institute, and urge his recommendation of the benefaction in his message to Congress, December, 1909. That as chief of the executive branch of government he cooperate with the State Department to secure favorable action of Congress to accept the gift of France to the United States, as set forth in Senate Documents 167 and 378.

Also set forth the fact that a precedent exists and the privilege established when real estate was accepted by the United States government in 1884 from Siam, and what has been done once may be repeated.

Also urge that the matter be expedited—that delay of ten years has deprived students of our country of a just right long expected and due talent—the greatest gift of a people—and to foster it is not only a duty, but it is the wealth of a nation.

The enterprise is neither "private nor commercial," and from the date when instituted has been corporate, and since 1900 been under the eye of the State Department. (See Senate Documents 167 and 378; also action at the date of the Paris Exposition regarding United States building, with official documents that will stand the test of law and time.)

Incorporators submit as basis of petition the following:

[S. 6641, Sixtieth Congress, first session, Report No. 1781.]

#### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

#### AN ACT TO incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That Chauncey M. Depew, Thomas Hunter, Count von Daur, John D. Crimmins, Thomas Hastings, J. Clarence Goodrich, Charles P. Gardiner, Candace Wheeler, Levi P. Morton, Mary R. Callender, Caroline de Forest, John M. Cerrere, Frederick Smedley, Sarah E. Henderson, Sarah E. Buckbee, Mrs. Janviere La Duc, and Matilda Smedley, all of the city of New York, State of New York; Mrs. Flora Adams Darling, Washington, D. C.; Phoebe Hearst, State of California; and Joshua L. Chamberlain, State of Maine; and Henry Vignaud, of Paris, France, their associates and successors, are hereby created a body corporate and politic in the District of Columbia, by the name of the American National Institute in Paris, France, with the right to implead and be impleaded, to adopt a constitution, by-laws, and corporate seal. The objects of this corporation are to construct a building in said city of Paris, and there to provide favorable conditions of surroundings and direction for American students, to be admitted under proper certificates of examination of fitness by competition, and to facilitate their studies and retaining in the arts and sciences, including architecture, sculpture, painting, applied design, music, dramatic art, literature, languages, scientific instruction, and research.

SEC. 2. That said corporation is hereby empowered to acquire property, both real and personal, by deed, lease, devise, subscription, purchase, gift, or by any other lawful means, in the United States and in France; and to take over, hold,

and administer all the property of the American National Institute (*Prix de Paris*), a corporation heretofore incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, including all its scholarships, subscriptions, bequests, gifts, and pledges, and ground conceded by the municipality of the city of Paris, France, seal and emblem.

Sec. 3. That the incorporators shall have power to add to their number and to fill any vacancy which may occur therein by reason of death, resignation, or disability.

Sec. 4. That the corporation shall determine the times and places of its meetings, and shall determine the number, tenure, duties, and salaries of the officers, committees, and agents of the corporation.

Sec. 5. That said corporation or board of regents may send each year to the Library of Congress, or such place as may be decided upon, subject to the approval of the Joint Committee on the Library of the two Houses of Congress, such works of the students of the institute, other than portraits, as may be agreed upon between the jurors of the American National Institute and the board of regents as suitable for preservation and exhibition.

Sec. 6. That all gifts and bequests of money to the institute, unless otherwise directed by the donor, shall be invested in United States or other safe bonds, so far as may be consistent with the conditions of such gifts and bequests.

Sec. 7. That any scholarship donated or bequeathed shall be applied to that branch of education specified by the donor.

Passed the Senate May 15, 1908.

Attest:

CHARLES G. BENNETT, *Secretary*.  
By H. M. ROSE, *Assistant Secretary*.

#### PETITION OF INCORPORATORS TO THE GOVERNORS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

We, the incorporators of the American National Institute (*Prix de Paris*) earnestly petition the governors of the several States to recommend legislative action and secure state scholarships based on competitive examinations for educational advancement set forth in object and aims, and that each State shall cooperate with the General Government to carry out the plans on the following approved basis:

That each State through its legislature shall appropriate a fund for a scholarship and that the interest thereon shall provide for a state pupil a term of four years, at the rate of \$1,200 per annum, this amount to include every expense at the American National Institute in the city of Paris under the auspices of the State and thus provide an American home for United States pupils under our own flag and amid the highest state environments of culture.

Further, that each state governor shall authorize the state board of education to select the student and to whom reports of the same may be made. Also to interest patriotic societies and philanthropic individuals to aid ways and means to provide for scholarships upon the same basis, and that any and all funds to aid and advance the work shall be placed under the control of the governors of the several States and in cooperation with the General Government of the United States as set forth by Congress in Document No. 187; also recommended by the late President McKinley in his message to Congress, 1899, herewith submitted; also the late John Hay.

#### OBJECTS AND AIMS.

The "Prize of Paris" consists of three years' scholarship, including all living expenses, and will be awarded upon competition. Its aim is to provide lessons from the greatest masters of France for such students as shall have most distinguished themselves at home. The working of the institute will be insured by a scholarship fund, either by private subscription or by the States of the Union, as may be legislated for by the States. Where it will be found to the advantage of country and student, a supplementary year will be added for travel and research to facilitate the studies and training in the arts and sciences, including architecture, sculpture, painting, applied design, music, dramatic art, literature, languages, scientific instruction, and research.

[FROM THE LATE PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S ANNUAL MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, 1899.]

## STATE WORK.

The value of united interest of the several States is appreciated, and the incorporators urge that each State shall cooperate with the General Government to carry out the following approved basis:

That each State, through its legislature, shall appropriate a scholarship fund, and that the interest thereon shall provide for a state pupil a term of four years at the rate of \$1,200 per annum, this amount to include every expense at the American National Institute, in the city of Paris, under the auspices of the State, and thus provide an American home for United States pupils amid the highest class environments of culture and under our own flag.

Further, that each state governor shall authorize the state board of education to appoint the student, and to that board reports of the same may be made annually by the national board of directors of the American National Institute. State students, under supervision of state authority, officially recognized as protégés, will do credit to their "home and country."

Further, the founder and incorporators urge patriotic societies to contribute scholarships in memory of our French allies, and it is believed philanthropic individuals will through gifts and bequests establish scholarships upon the basis of state work. Students thus selected to be acceded to a State, designated by sponsors, that each may act for the welfare of the whole and through cooperation with the General Government make the American National Institute a benefaction and honor to a degree worthy the nation, and thereby place the American National Institute as an enduring memorial to honor our country.

Secondly, in consideration of government patronage through annual appropriation by state legislatures, that Congress shall have the privilege of appointing one student from each State, upon competitive examination, and to maintain art students sent to Paris for the same amount that is paid for the education of cadets at West Point and Annapolis academies.

Third, that the United States Congress shall incorporate the American National Institute upon the general lines of the Smithsonian Institution, as suggested by the late Secretary of State, Hon. John Hay, and place the proposed benefaction under the control of the State Department, and that it be provided the United States ambassador to France shall at all times stand as official head of the institute, as may be delegated by the State Department.

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COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, D. C., April 7, 1908.

Right Rev. JOHN IRELAND,  
St. Paul, Minn.

DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of yours of the 22d instant. Miss Matilda Smedley called on me some time ago and presented your letter of introduction. I was very much interested in Miss Smedley's description of the project in which she is engaged, and while it raises some very interesting questions, as I informed Miss Smedley, there is nothing that Congress can do until the two Governments, through their respective foreign offices, reach an agreement regarding the title to the property upon which the institution is to be located. When this agreement is finally consummated it will then be transmitted to Congress by the President, and then authority can be given to accept the donation or not, as Congress sees fit. The initial step, however, must be taken by the executive department of the Government and not by the legislative branch.

Yours, very respectfully,

J. A. TAWNEY.

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COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, D. C., May 19, 1908.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
164 West Forty-seventh Street, New York, N. Y.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am in receipt of your letter of the 18th instant calling attention to the fact that your bill has passed the Senate. I do not know to what committee it was referred in the House. I presume, however,

that it was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. I will make inquiry, and when I ascertain I will advise you. In any event there is no possibility of the bill receiving consideration at this session. Congress will adjourn the last of this week, and the time between now and then will be so completely occupied in the consideration of the supply bills and conference reports that there will be no opportunity for doing anything else. The bill, however, may be considered at the next session.

Yours, very truly,

J. A. TAWNEY.

NEW YORK, December 12, 1903.

Hon. S. W. McCall,  
*Representative from Massachusetts.*

MY DEAR SIR: We, the incorporators of the American National Institute Prix de Paris, Paris, France, received the favorable report No. 1781 made by the Committee on the Library May 12, 1903 (in your charge), and jointly desire to express our appreciative thanks for your active interest and personal influence to aid the result; and while we realize the present session is brief, the conditions are such we jointly urge your early endeavors to secure its passage at the earliest day, to close the matter, as now prepared, by placing the work in charge of the State Department of the United States.

Thos. Hunter, Levi P. Morton, Mrs. Janvieve Le Duc, Chauncey M. Depew, Matilda Smedley, John D. Crimmins, Louis C. Tiffany, Mary B. Cullander, Caroline de Forest, Mrs. Flora Adams Darling, Thos. Hastings, John M. Carrere, Gen. Joshua L. Chamberlain, *incorporators.*

David Gregg (Bishop), Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop Farley, Howard Russell Butler, Carl Beckwith, Henri von Daur, Rev. Dr. Faunce, Rev. Dr. Van Dyke, Archbishop Ireland, Mr. Spooner, John Q. Adams, and others, *indorsers.*

DECEMBER 17, 1903.

President ROOSEVELT,  
*President of the United States:*

We, the incorporators, indorsers, and friends of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris), herein petition you to accept the site donated by France, in the city of Paris, on which to erect the proposed building that is regarded an absolute necessity by our people, and transmit the same to Congress as one of your last memorable acts, for in accepting this remarkable gift, to advance our country educationally and aiding our talented scholars to a higher destiny, your official seal would give great and extended satisfaction.

State scholarships are assured and much interest is manifested in the early completion of the work, as set forth in Document 167, to make the American Institute a national benefaction.

Herewith please notice the following autographic names of incorporators and indorsers already in the files of Congress:

Yours, sincerely,

JOHN M. CARRERE.  
JOHN D. CRIMMINS.

Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States; late President McKinley; M. Emil Loubet, ex-President of France; M. A. Fallières, President of France; M. Jules Cambon, ex-ambassador; M. Le Pine, prefecture de police, representative of France; M. De Selves, prefecture de police; M. Von Daur; Mr. Geo. W. Breck; Mr. J. H. Lamport; Mr. Thomas Hunter, president normal college; Mr. John Morgan, D. D.; Mr. W. H. Fance, D. D.; Mr. Alexander Harrison; Mr. Wm. M. Chase; Mr. Howard Russell Butler; Mr. Walter Damrosch; Hon. Elihu Root, Secretary of State; Mr. John Hay, late Secretary of State; late Senator Allison; Ambassador White; Henri Vignaud, first secretary United States embassy to Paris; Secretary Cox; Frank Mason, consul-general; Hon. Bishop Potter; Hon. Bishop Greer; Hon. Archbishop Ireland; Hon. Archbishop Farley; Cardinal Gibbons; Rev. Dr. Burrell; Mr. Henry Van Dyke, D. D.; Hon. Seth Low, ex-president Columbia College; Mr. Levi P. Morton; Mr. Richard Watson Gilder; John D. Crimmins; John M. Carrere; Matilda Smedley, founder-general.

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
Washington, December 18, 1908.

DEAR MADAM: Your letter of the 12th instant has been received, and in reply I beg to state that if the bill to which you refer comes before the President for official action it will have his careful consideration.

Very truly, yours,

WM. LOEB, Jr.,  
Secretary to the President.

Mrs. FLORA ADAMS DARLING,  
1907 N Street NW., Washington, D. C.

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
Washington, February 29, 1908.

DEAR MADAM: Your letter of the 28th instant has been received, and in reply I beg to state that the matter to which you refer is one you should take up with the State Department.

Very truly, yours,

WM. LOEB, Jr.,  
Secretary to the President.

MARIE CLINTON LE DUC,  
70 West Fifty-fifth Street, New York, N. Y.

In the Senate of the United States, April 5, 1909, Mr. Frye introduced the following bill, which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations: "A bill to incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France." [S. 1345, 61st Cong., 1st sess.]

[Senate Report No. 647, Sixtieth Congress, first session.]

Mr. Frye, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, submitted the following report, to accompany S. 6641:

The Committee on Foreign Relations, to whom was referred the bill (S. 6641) to incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France, having considered the same, report it back without amendment.

The following letters recite the history of similar bills in the Fifty-seventh and Fifty-eighth Congresses and indicate the cordial approval of the Department of State:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, March 11, 1905.

SIR: On January 22, 1904, a letter was addressed to the President pro tempore of the Senate by the Acting Secretary of State (copy attached) in regard to the proposed incorporation of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris.

At that time a bill for this purpose which had been introduced as S. 7368 in the Fifty-seventh Congress, second session, and which had been passed by the Senate on February 28, 1903, had failed to obtain consideration in the House of Representatives. The department had previously expressed its interest in the measure in the terms quoted in the letter of January 22, 1904, and on this latter date took occasion to express the hope that the meritorious project might be recognized by the passage of a similar measure during the Fifty-eighth Congress.

The same thing took place in the Fifty-eighth Congress. A bill similar to the former one was introduced and was passed by the Senate April 18, 1904. (S. 4504, 58th Cong., 1st sess.) It likewise failed to receive consideration in the House of Representatives and died with the close of the Fifty-eighth Congress on March 4, 1905.

In the meantime the efforts of the incorporators of the American National Institute in Paris had obtained from the municipality of the city of Paris a definite gratuitous option of a desirable site facing the Champs de Mars upon which to establish the institute. That option by its terms expires December 2, 1905, and is otherwise accompanied by conditions not contemplated in the bill which had passed the Senate eight months before.

It is represented to me that the incorporators of the institute propose to make further efforts with the municipality of Paris to obtain extension and necessary amendment of the option, and that the probability of their succeeding in this would be increased if the measure for the incorporation of the institute were actually before the present Fifty-ninth Congress.



In view of the interest heretofore shown in the project by this department, and taking into account the generous action of the municipality of Paris in offering to contribute a valuable site toward its realization, it seems not inappropriate to apprise you of the purpose and desire of the incorporators to keep the project alive and to express a hope that some way may be found by which this can be done.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

HON. CHARLES W. FAIRBANKS,  
*President United States Senate.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, January 22, 1904.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a copy of a letter from Miss Mathilda Smedley, with inclosures, looking to the incorporation of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France.

A bill for this purpose (S. 7368) was passed by the Senate on February 28, 1903, and I am informed was reported favorably to the House of Representatives, where it failed of consideration.

In regard to this bill the Secretary of State, in a letter addressed to you, wrote:

"This department has for a number of years taken much interest in the success of this movement, designed to establish in Paris a national institute for the study of art which will at the same time afford a home for young American men and women students, surrounding them with the wholesome influences and moral protection so desirable in a great capital.

"By referring to Senate Document No. 398, Fifty-sixth Congress, first session, you will find the purposes of the institute fully explained and a gratifying showing of the progress made toward its accomplishment. It has received the cordial support of the municipal administration of Paris, which has generously offered a large and valuable site, on renewable lease, at a nominal ground rent of 1 franc per annum, for the construction of the buildings of the institute. That document (No. 398) gives plots of the fourteen sites from which to make selection.

"While occupying temporary quarters during the past three years the institute has shown its capacity for good, both in its educational and in its moral sense. It has enlisted sympathy in France as well as in the United States and now holds important donations of money and valuable works of art toward its establishment and maintenance. A good working nucleus for the necessary collections of paintings, statuary, and books already exists. Once set on a practical footing, with appropriate recognition of its character by the Governments of the United States and of France, the rapid development and enlargement of its sphere of utility and protection may be expected with confidence."

It is sincerely hoped that Congress during its present session will recognize this meritorious project by the passage of a bill of the character inclosed.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADEE,  
*Acting Secretary.*

HON. WILLIAM P. FRYE,  
*President pro tempore United States Senate.*

(Inclosures:) From Miss M. Smedley, December 18, 1903; January 21, 1904; Senate Document No. 160, Fifty-seventh Congress, second session; S. 7368, Fifty-seventh Congress, second session.

[Senate Report No. 647, Sixtieth Congress, first session.]

Mr. Frye, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, submitted the following report, to accompany S. 6641:

The Committee on Foreign Relations, to whom was referred the bill (S. 6641) to incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France, having considered the same, report it back without amendment.

This enterprise was originated in 1892 by Miss Matilda Smedley, who has ever since devoted herself unceasingly to its promotion. The institute was incorporated under the laws of the State of New York in 1895, and the work has been carried on as well as possible with the limited means at its disposal. During three years of this time a so-called "preliminary house" was leased and operated in a manner which demonstrated the great good which might be accomplished with a suitable building, properly supported. Gifts amounting to more than \$150,000 have been received, and it is believed that with a national charter and a fixed site, such as has been offered by the French Government, the institute will be generously maintained by Americans at home and abroad.

The exodus of thousands of our young art students to Europe, and especially to Paris, the center of activity in this branch of learning, if it can not be stemmed, may at least be modified and directed with great benefit by such an institution.

This institute, through its well-planned organization, has for its object to guide and direct the student in that great city. The beneficiaries are to be selected by competitive examinations in each State, a free scholarship for three years being awarded to the best students. These will be called "prize students" or "pensionnaires du Prix de Paris," as the French call their laureate students of the Prix de Rome at the Villa Medici in that city. The fortunate prize winners will receive all the benefits of this organization in an institution under American control, but cordially aided by French artists of renown.

After the three years' study in Paris a competition will be entered into for one-year supplementary scholarships, involving travel to other art centers of Europe, according to the demonstrated aptitude of the student.

The institution is not designed to encourage students of art indiscriminately to flock to Paris. On the contrary, it is proposed to limit this exodus, so far as may be, to those demonstrating exceptional aptitude.

That the institute will not lack for support is indicated by a list of more than 800 names, including many of national reputation and abundant means, who have expressed their interest in the project.

Scholarships have already been pledged as follows:

Mrs. Walden-Pell .....	\$10,000
Mrs. James Jackson .....	10,000
Mrs. Frank Leslie .....	5,000
The Baroness Zedwitz .....	500

Certainly there can be no reasonable objection to Congress, in view of the generous action on the part of the French Government, granting such an institution the desired charter.

All documents heretofore printed are collated in Senate Documents 167 and 378, Fifty-eighth Congress, third session.

The committee recommends that the bill do pass.

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[House Report No. 1781, Sixtieth Congress, first session.]

Mr. McCall, from the Committee on the Library, submitted the following report, to accompany S. 6641:

The Committee on the Library, having had under consideration the bill (S. 6641) to incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France, report the same back without amendment.

The object of the bill, which has been favorably acted upon by the Senate, is to secure an improvement of conditions under which American students may study arts and sciences in Paris.

The committee recommend that the bill do pass.

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#### FROM THE LATE PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, 1899.

The United States Government building is approaching completion, and no effort will be spared to make it worthy, in beauty of architectural plan and in completeness of display, to represent our nation. It has been suggested that a permanent building of similar or appropriate design be erected on a convenient site, already given by the municipality, near the exposition grounds, to serve in commemoration of the part taken by this country in this great enterprise, as an American National Institute, for our countrymen resorting to Paris for study.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, March 31, 1904.

HON. WILLIAM P. FRYE,  
*President pro tem. United States Senate.*

DEAR MR. SENATOR: I am very glad to learn by your letter of the 29th that the success of the measure for incorporating the American National Institute at Paris seems to be assured.

The subject has interested me very much. It seems to me not a mere experiment, but to rest already on practical foundations and with good prospect of further development, so as to be of great aid to the American art student, as well as most creditable to our national reputation for enterprise in useful and effective directions.

*The signal generosity of the municipality of Paris in offering a valuable site for this institution building deserves national recognition on our part in some substantial shape. The erection of a tasteful building, without loss of time, would be the most effective way of meeting the just expectations of the municipality. As soon as the resolution of incorporation becomes law, I shall send certified copy thereof to our ambassador at Paris and direct him to communicate it to the French Government and to lend his aid toward the final arrangements for taking over the site given by the city of Paris.*

I am, my dear Mr. Frye, very faithfully, yours,

JOHN HAY.

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COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, UNITED STATES,  
Washington, D. C., April 20, 1904.

HON. JOHN HAY,  
*Secretary of State, Washington.*

SIR: I inclose herewith a copy of S. 4504, to incorporate the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) at Paris, France.

This bill passed the Senate on the 18th instant and has been sent to the House of Representatives and referred to the Committee on the Library for consideration.

I note by the accompanying reports that the State Department has taken an active interest in the subject covered by this bill, and I should like to be advised if, in your judgment, there seems to be any special reason why this bill should pass the House of Representatives at this session. I should be pleased to receive any observations or suggestions which you may deem proper to present.

Very respectfully, yours,

J. T. McCLEARY,  
*Chairman of the Committee on the Library.*

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STATE DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, D. C., April 21, 1904.

HON. JAMES T. McCLEARY, M. C.,  
*Chairman Committee on the Library,  
House of Representatives.*

SIR: I am pleased to learn by your letter of yesterday that the bill incorporating an American national institute at Paris has passed the Senate and been referred by the House of Representatives to your committee for consideration. I note your suggestion that you would be glad to receive any observations from this department on the bill and your inquiry whether, in my judgment, there is any special reason why it should pass the House of Representatives at this session.

This department has indorsed the movement for the incorporation of a national American institute at Paris and has favorably commended the project to the attention of Congress. In a letter to the President pro tempore of the Senate, dated February 28, 1903, it was said:

"This department has for a number of years taken much interest in the success of this movement, designed to establish in Paris a national institute for the study of art, which will at the same time afford a home for young American men and women students, surrounding them with the wholesome influences and moral protection so desirable in a great capital. \* \* \*

"Once set on a practical footing, with appropriate recognition of its character by the Governments of the United States and of France, the rapid development and enlargement of its sphere of utility and protection may be expected with confidence."

And in a later communication, dated January 23, 1904, to Senator Frye, the department said:

"It is sincerely hoped that Congress during its present session will recognize this meritorious project by the passage of a bill of the character of the inclosed"

Four years have elapsed since the generous offer by the municipality of Paris of a valuable site for the institute building in the heart of the city. Favorable action on the pending measure, without further delay, would seem but a just recognition by this Government of the exceptionally gracious and disinterested act of the French municipality.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

PARIS, JANUARY 9, 1900.

MR. WILLIAM MCKINLEY,  
*President of the United States.*

YOUR EXCELLENCY: I have the honor to inform Your Excellency of the success which has crowned the effort to found and establish the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) on the same principles as the Academy of France at Rome and Athens.

We were encouraged by private assurance and the many friends at Washington familiar with the project that the request expressed in our petition addressed to Your Excellency would be granted in due time, and we therefore tried to overcome every obstacle which might interfere with the realization of our aspiration.

We are happy to say that we have solved a point of the highest importance, by the concession of ground from the municipal council of Paris upon which to erect the institute, thereby overcoming the difficulty of our Government acquiring real estate in a foreign country. This act on the part of France is quite unprecedented; no similar privilege has ever been granted a foreign nation. To obtain such favorable results from the representatives of the city of Paris is loyal testimony of good will, generosity, and friendship.

I am convinced that the gracious words in our President's message, of December 5, to Congress in relation to the American National Institute tended to strengthen and solidify these sentiments. It was in the most gracious and opportune manner that Your Excellency spoke of the establishment in Paris of the American National Institute as a commemoration of the part taken by the United States in the great enterprise of the World's Exposition of 1900, and we are most thankful for your kindness, and the crowning result will be the best proof of the effectiveness of this assurance.

The highest attributes and policy of a great nation are to be liberal and munificent, to be free with her awards, splendid in her establishments, and grand in her public works. Wherever the standard of culture in the fine arts is most highly elevated we receive the respect of the whole civilized world.

Another proof of the most eloquent nature is the multitude of signatures of the most distinguished men of France in the literary, artistic, and scientific world, to a resolution which Miss Smedley, the founder and director of the American National Institute, will have the honor to present personally to Your Excellency upon her early arrival in Washington.

A house has been rented in the most central location of Paris, 50 Avenue d'Iéna, Place des Etats-Unis, to be used for the preliminary and administrative work of the institute; also to receive and place gifts, such as statuary, books, pictures, and objects of art donated to the institute, as well as to receive students who have been provided with private scholarships.

It was planned to inaugurate this house January 1, 1900, but on account of the death of our respected honorary president, Mrs. Walden-Pell, the inauguration was postponed. Mrs. Walden-Pell's knowledge of the requirements of American students pursuing their studies abroad prompted her to become a friend and patron of the work. Last year she gave a scholarship of \$10,000 to the institute, to be known as the Walden-Pell Scholarship for Music, to be under the control of Miss Smedley. In recognition of this noble donation to the institute we recommended her to Mr. G. Leigues, the minister of public instruction, who thereupon decorated her as an "officer d'Académie."

The American National Institute is daily receiving gifts and assurances of support and protection from all directions. Mrs. James Jackson, a noble-minded American lady residing in Paris, has also given a scholarship of \$10,000, founded the library of the Institute, and has recently donated a bust of Christ in marble by the American sculptor, Ezekiel, at Rome.

One of the recent literary publications of the learned Cardinal Rampolla has been sent to Miss Smedley by the cardinal himself, constituting a testimony of high appreciation from the Vatican.

During our travels in Italy last summer, where we studied the condition of schools and academies to acquire a knowledge which would assist us in directing American students of the institute at Paris, we visited the art centers of Rome and Venice and put ourselves in communication with the great masters and directors of art institutions, receiving everywhere an assurance of cordial collaboration in all works tending to advance the interest of American students.

While in Venice I had the honor to introduce Miss Smedley to Commendatore Barozzi, director of the Royal Museums, who gave her as a token of his acknowledgment of the work a most valuable collection of 27 hellogravures, reproductions of the frescoes by Paolo Veronese. These reproductions can not be obtained through commerce, and are a most valuable gift to the institute.

At Rome we have studied the academies and art establishments of other nations in this city; have had interviews with the respective directors; among others an interview with Dr. Guido Baccelli, minister of public instruction and director of archaeology, who expressed himself in the highest terms by saying that he wished it might have been the good fortune of Rome to possess such an institute instead of Paris.

We are proud of such testimonials, and the realization of this work will be the crowning monuments of a noble woman's life dream and seven long years of tireless effort.

When I first visited the United States in 1890, I recognized the great qualities and possibilities of that glorious country, and upon studying the Constitution and Declaration of Independence I was seized with a desire to become a citizen and did not hesitate to make my first declaration in the spirit of the historical motto of America, "Unite or die." I was proud when the final day arrived and I received the document which made me an American citizen, and for the last three years I have devoted my experience and knowledge of Europe to further the development and extension of the fine arts in America, and joined with enthusiasm in Miss Smedley's great work of founding the American National Institute.

I have recognized the talent possessed by young American students, and what a great blessing it would be if they could possess in Europe an academy where they could reach the standard of art of the nations of the Old World. Paris is to-day the center of activity in art, but, as the famous explorer of Egypt, Champollion, once said, "Without Egypt Greece could never have become a classical country in fine arts," and it was in the same spirit that France centuries ago founded an academy in Rome. It is her example we have followed, hoping to attain the same glorious results.

With the assurance of my highest respect, I have the honor to remain,

Your excellency's most obedient servant,

HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Secretary-General, Paris.*

#### SKILLFUL INDUSTRIAL ART.

#### HOW A SMALL NATION CONTINUES AS A GREAT WEALTH PRODUCER.

Consul-General Frank H. Mason, in the following letter from Paris, discusses the underlying reasons why France excels in the production and sale abroad of such a wide range of manufactured goods:

#### "THE NECESSITY OF SPECIALIZED EDUCATION.

"In view of the eager and growing demand for the higher, more artistic forms of manufactured merchandise, not only throughout the United States, but in other countries whose trade our exporters are seeking to obtain, the question may be fairly asked whether the time has not come to consider seriously the further development of some of the higher forms of manufacture in which artistic handicraft, the trained skill of the specially educated workman, is the essential element."

## INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

## HOW SKILLED ARTISANS ARE MADE IN SPECIAL TRAINING SCHOOLS.

Consul-General Mason believes it would be well for Americans to make a study of the system of industrial art education as developed and practiced in France. In the following report he describes those institutions located in Paris:

"Leaving out of present account the renowned School of Fine Arts (*Ecole des Beaux Arts*), at which so many of the painters, sculptors, architects, and engravers of France and other countries are educated and trained at the *expense of the state*, the scope of this report concerns rather the strictly industrial art schools, where the future artisans, who are to continue the high traditions of artistic manufacture, are educated and prepared for their work. The principal institutions of this class in Paris are as follows:

"*The Germain Pilon School* is located in a quarter mainly inhabited by small manufacturers and their workmen, and receives only day pupils. The normal age of admission is 14 years, but boys of exceptional ability may be admitted when a year younger, provided they have obtained a 'certificate of elementary studies' at a communal school. There is no formal entrance examination, but the candidate is required to execute a geometrical drawing to demonstrate his artistic aptitude, and write a short composition to show his scholarship and general intelligence. The course of instruction fills three years and is thus divided:

"First year: Geometry, decoration, architecture, water color, sepiá, and black and white drawing, and modeling. Second year: Perspective, anatomy and geometrical drawing in sepiá, ornamental designs for braids and trimmings, designs for furniture, the history of modern art, modeling and molding. Third year: The same as second year, with the addition of decorative composition and study of standard styles of art.

"Graduates on leaving the school generally enter the workshops of some of the great furniture makers and decorators of Paris and the provinces, where they earn at first about \$20 per month, but they are always in demand and their promotion is certain and rapid.

"*The Bernard Palissy School*, named after the great ceramic artist of the sixteenth century, may be considered a branch of the Germain Pilon School, already described, and is especially intended for the education of young men for certain industries, the designing and decoration of porcelain, designing of textile fabrics, carving and sculpture in wood, metals, and stone. Only pupils of French nationality are admitted. The candidate must be fully 13 years of age and reside in the department of the Seine, and must pass an entrance examination in reading, writing, history, and drawing. The course includes four years, during the first of which the pupils continue the ordinary studies of that age: Grammar, geography, arithmetic, and history, as well as modeling, drawing flowers, lineal drawing, and ornamental designing. They are taken in classes to visit various workshops and ateliers, where they watch the finished artisans at their work and choose each for himself what branch of industrial art he will follow.

"In addition to the practical work in each division, the study of the three final years comprises decorative composition, drawing from plaster casts, the human figure, and ornaments, anatomy, modeling, perspective, the theory and history of art, and analysis of styles. There are at present in this school 13 masters and 132 pupils, divided as to choice of profession as follows: Twenty-five decorators, 20 designers of textile fabrics, 20 sculptors in wood, ivory, and stone, 16 porcelain painters, and 51 pupils in the first year who have not decided upon their special line of study. From this school come many of the leading decorative painters, textile designers, and artisan sculptors.

"The cost of maintaining these two schools is about \$22,000 per annum, and they turn out together about 60 graduates each year. Next in order, and a step lower in the scale of art industry, come two schools which are specially devoted to instruction in certain handicrafts pertaining to special industries. These are:

"*The Estienne School*, in which are taught all the arts connected with the production of books, viz, artistic typography, binding, engraving on wood, metal, and stone, photography, and photogravure. The school was named after a celebrated family of printers; the first of whom, Henri Estienne, was born in 1470, and founded an important printing and publishing house about 1502,

which was maintained at the head and front of artistic publication in Paris for upward of 350 years. Applicants for admission to the 'École Estienne' must be of French nationality, not less than 13 nor more than 16 years of age, and resident in the city or suburbs of Paris. If the pupil lives in one of the suburbs (outside the fortifications), the commune to which he belongs must guarantee the payment of 200 francs (\$38.60) annually. Candidates for admission must be able to write a dictation in French, solve two problems in arithmetic, and make a drawing from a plaster cast.

"The Diderot School was founded in 1872 for the purpose of teaching all processes connected with the working of iron and wood. It receives only day pupils, who must be on entering from 13 to 15 years of age, must pass an examination, which includes an essay on a technical subject, a problem in plain geometry, and a free-hand drawing. The course of study occupies three years, during the first and second of which the pupils work under instructors from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m. Of this long day five and one-half hours are spent in the workshops and three hours in the class rooms, the remaining hours being given to extra study, meals, and exercise. Pupils of the third year spend seven and one-half hours in the workshops and only two in the class rooms. There are in all nine workshops, in which are taught and practiced the manufacture of instruments of precision, modeling, artistic forge work, turning, electrical fittings, and sanitary plumbing. A pupil on entering passes a few days in each workshop, in order that he may select which branch he prefers. When he has made his choice he enters that workshop, and is placed between two other boys—one of the second and one of the third year—and thus benefits by the experience of his two comrades.

"Twice a year each pupil is called upon to make some particular article, without receiving any advice or explanation as to how it is to be made. These productions are judged by a jury of manufacturers and workmen, and money prizes are given for the best bits of work. The pupils often visit workshops and large factories, where the different processes of manufacture are explained to them by their professors. The director of the school receives many applications from manufacturers, and when a boy leaves school he can usually go directly to a permanent and relatively well-paid situation. This school has at present 19 professors and masters and 326 pupils, who, in addition to the manual trades above cited, are taught French grammar, history, geography, mechanics, physics, chemistry, ornamental drawing, and the elements of book-keeping, the education which will enable a workman to rise step by step to the position of director and manufacturer.

#### " OTHER SCHOOLS.

"There are besides these the Dorian School, founded by a private philanthropist in 1871 to educate and train industrially the boys whose fathers had perished in the war, and the Alembert School, at Montevrain, near Paris, where 100 boys are taught painting and furniture making.

"Finally, there is the Polytechnic Association and other organizations of a similar nature, which have a semiofficial character, and are designed to complete the education of adult artisans who are occupied during the day. They hold evening classes at many of the schools and lycées of Paris, in which nearly 1,000 adult pupils receive instruction in drawing, decorative composition, designing, languages, and other accomplishments. For these courses the municipal authorities give free use of the schoolrooms, with lighting and heating, and a cash subsidy of \$50,000 per annum.

#### " ART EDUCATION FOR GIRLS.

"In all the higher schools and lycées for girls, art study and the training which develops a correct, enlightened taste is made an essential part of the course of study. The pupils are taken by their teachers to visit museums and picture galleries, so that the vast resources of the Louvre, the Luxembourg, the Cluny, and other museums become available as object lessons.

"Besides these there are five industrial schools, supported by the municipality, in which girls are specially educated in dressmaking, the making and trimming of hats, glass and porcelain painting, the making of artificial flowers, embroidery, and all the vast range of delicate, dainty handwork for women, in the production of which Paris is unrivaled.

"These schools are located according to the character of the population in the adjacent quarters, the highest in this respect being the school for china, fan, miniature, and glass painting, water-color drawing, and enamel work. In these branches there are two schools, founded by a wealthy French woman, Madame Elise Lemonnier, for the higher art education and training of women. The two remaining schools were also established by private beneficence, but have been purchased and taken over by the municipality into the public-school system. When the schools were under private control the girl pupils paid a small tuition fee and could remain as long as they desired, but under municipal management all the girls' industrial art schools are free and the course of study is limited to four years.

"THE LESSON TO BE LEARNED FROM FRANCE.

"It is at this period in national development, when the American demand for the highest products of skilled and artistic workmanship has become insistent and all but insatiable, that it is timely and interesting to ask what lessons France has to teach the United States, especially in the direction of industrial art encouragement and education.

"It is well known that, notwithstanding limited natural resources in respect to coal, iron, and other metals, with not a pound of cotton or petroleum produced within her borders, with a stationary population and heavy burdens of public debt and national defense, France is one of the most prosperous of nations. Paris, gorged with money, has become the banker of Continental Europe. The underlying sources of this prosperity can be summed up in a sentence, namely, a genial climate, a soil naturally fertile and kept to the highest point of production by intelligent, intensive cultivation; industry and frugality of living on the part of the working classes, and, above all, the instinct of artistic taste, fostered and developed by education and governmental influence, until it has become a national attribute.

"It is this which enables French ateliers and workshops to turn out the choice products which defy the tariff walls of other nations and make Paris the Mecca, not only of a vast multitude of cultivated amateurs, but of the merchants from foreign countries who deal in the choicest and most valuable forms of merchandise.

"France is industrially prosperous because she commands the rarest and surest of assets—the æsthetic taste which creates models and standards for other peoples, and the consummate handicraft which multiplies in the product ten, twenty, or a hundred times the value of the material of which it is composed."

CONSUL-GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

DEAR MR. MASON: We, the incorporators of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris), forward to you, through Miss Matilda Smedley, founder, and Mr. Henry von Daur, secretary-general, for your information, the two accompanying volumes, published by the United States Senate, and also the record of the municipal council of Paris, hoping thereby to enlist your good offices, as far as consistent, on behalf of a proper recognition of the gift of ground as set forth in said record.

The two volumes clearly set forth the purpose and scope of the institute.

Your cooperation will be very valuable to our cause on account of your thorough knowledge and appreciation of its necessity, your having lived in Europe so many years having given you experience.

You will be pleased to learn that the municipal council of Paris, by unanimous vote of December 2, 1904, granted a valuable site of ground, selected from 14 sites offered for choice, as set forth in Volume I, on which to erect a building to be known as the "American National Institute." The time for acceptance was limited to one year. Owing to the short session and the functions of the inauguration of our President, Mr. Roosevelt, Congress failed to consider the subject.

A petition from the incorporators, accompanied by a letter from our ambassador, Mr. McCormick, by request of the State Department, was, therefore, presented on November 17 to the President and members of the municipal council,



asking for an extension of six months. After reference to the fourth commission—arts and education—of which M. Roger Lambelin is a member, the petition was taken into consideration on November 25, 1905, and received an unanimous vote. These six months will give ample time to secure the protection of the United States Government, thereby creating a national institution on French ground, corresponding to the Villa Medecis for the French Prix de Rome. Only students who have gained a three years' scholarship, after competition at home, will be admitted.

In recognition of this valuable gift of ground, exempt from taxation, situated in one of the most beautiful parts of Paris (as set forth in the map of Vol. II), and also in recognition of the gifts of sculpture, paintings, books, and musical instruments from the best masters of France, we propose to solicit contributions for the founding of a scholarship fund, and ask you, as the representative of our country, to use your good offices, so far as consistent, in this behalf, thereby insuring the continued support of the institute.

The existing relations of sympathy, friendship, and commercial enterprise between the two great Republics warrant our solicitation. Wealth and prosperity are the characteristics of all commercial enterprise, and underlie the fine arts, science, and culture.

Messrs. Carrere & Hastings, in cooperation with the municipal architect of Paris, furnish the plan of the building gratis.

We trust that in your many duties you may find time in which to give some thought to this benefaction.

Yours, very respectfully,

MATILDA SMEDLEY.

[Inclosure.]

M. George Lamblin, municipal counsel and reporter: The work stands as an international question between the United States Government and the city of Paris, indorsed by the Government of France.

M. Lé Pine, prefecture of police, Republic of France; M. De Selves, prefecture of the Seine, president of the municipal council, Republic of France; Minister of Foreign Affairs; Director of the Beaux Arts; M. Loubet, President of the French Republic; M. Faillieres, President of the French Republic.

[From "The Universities of France," published by the Franco-American committee.]

Mr. Raphael George Levy, professor at the Ecole des Sciences Politiques, was able to verify while traveling through the United States that the proposal of establishing closer relations between the two universities was everywhere most favorably received. On his return he published in the *Revue Internationale de l'Enseignement* of February, 1897, an article from which we extract the following passages:

"In spite of the immense progress realized by America, in spite of the legitimate sentiment the Americans possess, and rightly possess, of their own personal worth, there is among them a general and growing desire to draw their inspiration in the future, as in the past, from European sources, or to find at least in European teaching additional elements of strength and knowledge.

"Their professors have, generally speaking, one year's holiday in every seven years; they they often arrange to spend on the other side of the ocean, where they recruit their strength by drinking at the old springs. As to the students, a certain number enter their names every year in the English, French, German, Austrian, or Italian universities. Not so, however. It was not toward Berlin that the leaders of American thought turned when, at the end of last century, she conquered her independence and commenced to organize her national life on a solid basis.

"The nation which now occupies almost an entire continent, and which will doubtless offer to the twentieth century the spectacle of uninterrupted development, had then at her head men who knew France and who desired to borrow her treasures of literature and science to spread them amongst their own students. Thomas Jefferson, one of the most revered presidents of the United States, worked ceaselessly to bring about an intimate union between the minds of the two nations.

"When he was minister of the United States at Paris his dearest wish was to found an academy of arts and sciences at Richmond, in Virginia, which would have branches in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York. It was with Quesnay de Beaurepaire, grandson of the great economist, that he studied this plan, which was stopped by the French Revolution before it arrived at maturity. Jefferson did not, however, relinquish his idea of creating an intellectual center of which France would furnish the first elements. On his return to his own country he remained in correspondence with Dupont de Nemours, who himself went to New York in 1800 and at once paid a visit to Jefferson in Philadelphia.

"In the conversations which took place between them they thoroughly discussed the problem of higher education in the United States. Dupont de Nemours wrote in French a tract on *L'Education Nationale aux Etats-Unis*, in which he recommended the creation of a university in Washington which would consist of four faculties—medicine, mines, mathematics, social science and legislation.

"A few years later a young Virginian, Joseph Carrington Cabell, returned from Europe where, like Jefferson, he had made Paris the center of his studies. He attended the lectures of Cuvier and other professors at the College de France, and at Montpellier had worked hard at natural science. In 1809 he became a member of the House of Representatives and two years later of the Senate, where for twenty years he warmly defended Jefferson's ideas on all matters appertaining to education. When the latter wrote to him in 1815 to designate the men who appeared the most worthy to occupy chairs in the proposed university he gave the first place to Jean-Baptiste Say, who was then thinking of crossing the ocean, and to Destutt de Tracy, the celebrated Ideologist. This is how Jefferson justified his desire of giving a large place to French ideas in every liberal education: 'French is the language generally employed in all international communications; it has received the sacred deposit of human science in a larger measure than any other idiom living or dead.' And he added: 'There are only two nations in modern history whose march it is interesting for us to follow—France and England.'

"That is what the most eminent men in America thought at the beginning of the century. Have their ideas changed in our day? And if so, is there any reason for that change? These two questions are equally interesting to examine.

"It is certain that if France still holds a preponderating place in the world of letters, arts, and sciences, she is no longer the only nation on whom the eyes of the scientific and political world are fixed.

"Therefore France must have a singular force of attraction to retain this precious contingent. She owes this attraction to the splendor of her ancient and modern literature, to the grandeur of her scientific works, and, above all, to those qualities of clearness and logic which are the finest appendage of her genius.

"The distinguishing mark of the writings of our great thinkers, poets, historians, or philosophers, as well as mathematicians, physicians, chemists, and the arts, is that inexorable precision in the idea which allies itself to the perfection of form giving to the reader or hearer an impression of complete harmony. If there is one place where these qualities are appreciated more than another it is in the chair of a university.

"Youth is attracted, and rightly attracted, to those who present the elements of science and art with order and clearness, whose explanations dissipate all haziness in the minds of their hearers, laying before them not the doubts and difficulties they passed through themselves before finding out the truth, but the acquired results of the struggle, that certainty which gives rest to the intelligence and form a reliable starting point for the work and initiative of new generations. These are the essentially French merits which are known and appreciated by the Americans.

"Those motives which made Jefferson desire so ardently closer relations between the two countries are as strong as ever, and the marvelous progress which the United States have realized in certain respects renders the contact still more desirable. We have that love of perfection in all things—artistic and literary tastes—which are marvelous adjuncts to what characterizes American genius, the spirit of enterprise and invention."

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

*Washington, April 12, 1905.*

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have your letter of the 6th, expressing your intention to call shortly to confer with me concerning the proposed communication to Ambassador McCormick in regard to the institute.

Your suggestions were anticipated by a letter from Mr. Von Daur, received last Saturday, and at his suggestion a letter to Mr. McCormick has already been prepared. The ambassador is requested to use his good offices in any practical way, and I am sending him a copy of Mr. Hay's letter to the Senate, of March 11, as well as of the last Senate bill.

I am, my dear Miss Smedley, very truly, yours,

ALVEY A. ADEE.

Miss MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
The Iowa, Washington, D. C.

AMBASSADE AMÉRICAINNE, 18 AVENUE KLÉBER,  
*Paris, le 10, novembre 1905.*

*Monsieur le Président et Messieurs les Membres du Conseil Municipal de Paris.*

MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT—MESSIEURS: J'ai l'honneur de recommander à votre bon accueil la requête ci-jointe des Trustees (Administrateurs) de l'Institut National Américain, qui a déjà été l'objet de votre sollicitude et qui fait encore appel à votre sympathie bienveillante.

Dans sa séance du 2 décembre 1904, le Conseil Municipal a concédé à l'Institut un terrain, sur lequel doivent être élevées les constructions nécessaires à cet Institut, à la condition que ce don serait accepté dans le cours d'une année.

Le projet de loi américain, incorporant l'Institut conformément aux termes de la législation des Etats-Unis, n'ayant pu être prise en considération à la dernière session du 58<sup>m</sup> congrès, qui fut courte, a été de nouveau présenté et attend la décision du 59<sup>m</sup> congrès, dont la session régulière s'ouvre au commencement du mois de décembre.

C'était le désir de l'éminent Secrétaire d'Etat de mon Gouvernement, feu Mr. John Hay, que cette ambassade accordât son concours moral à Mlle. Smedley, fondatrice de l'œuvre, pour réaliser la création de cet Institut, qui est destiné à faciliter si grandement les rapports des étudiants américains avec les maîtres français, et je viens en conséquence appuyer auprès de vous la demande des administrateurs de l'œuvre, d'une prolongation de six mois de la période fixée originairement pour l'acceptation de la concession. Le Congrès des Etats-Unis ne devant se réunir que le 5 décembre, il importe que cette prorogation soit accordée avant cette date, car autrement tous les efforts de ceux qui s'intéressent à la création de l'Institut seront perdus.

Je n'ai pas besoin d'ajouter que comme toutes les personnalités éminentes qui, tant en Amérique qu'en France, ont tenu à encourager la création d'un Prix de Paris à l'usage des Américains, je serais heureux de voir aboutir les démarches qui sont faites dans ce but et que je suis particulièrement reconnaissant au Conseil Municipal de Paris pour l'intérêt qu'il prend à cette utile création ainsi que pour la libéralité avec laquelle il concourt à sa réussite.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Président et Messieurs les Membres du Conseil Municipal, l'assurance de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

ROBERT S. MCCORMICK.

[Secretary-General of National Institute, Paris.]

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS),  
24 AVENUE DE SAXE,  
*Paris, January 26, 1906.*

Mr. THEODORE ROOSEVELT,  
*President of the United States.*

YOUR EXCELLENCY: It is with much pleasure we inclose the clipping of the cable dispatch announcing the fact that on January 10, 1906, the United States Senate passed the bill incorporating the American National Institute (Prix de Paris); also copies of letters of thanks to Mr. Emile Loubet, president of the French Republic, and Mr. Armand Fallieres, the president-elect.

The bill clothes the institute with authority to construct a building in Paris upon the ground donated by the municipal council of this city, which was presented in 1899. The site selected is the one unanimously voted on December 2, 1904, conditionally for one year, expiring December 2, 1905.

But through the kind recommendation of the late and much regretted secretary of state, Mr. John Hay, the good offices of our present ambassador, Mr. McCormick, were asked to explain reason of the delay and to solicit the municipality of Paris to add an amendment of further six months, ending June 2, 1906, which was voted by that august body on November 25, 1905, hereby giving sufficient time for our Congress to act.

The French Government, the University of Paris, the director of the Academy of Beaux Arts, e. c. v., have given us every facility for the perfect fulfillment of the high programme of the American National Institute as set forth in Document No. 167 of the Fifty-eighth Congress, second session, printed by order of the United States Senate.

But what has given us the greatest satisfaction is the indorsement and expressions of good will and sympathy over the signature of President Emile Loubet, January 17, and that of the president-elect, Mr. Armand Fallieres, January 21, in the book of incorporation of the American National Institute, which has also received the honor of your signature, Mr. President, on February 16, 1903.

Such recognition and support of the president of France and the president-elect is unprecedented, and carries with its protection and sympathy the high appreciation of our nation.

I beg you, Mr. President, to accept the assurance of our most distinguished and devoted sentiments.

HENRI VON DAUR,  
*Delegate and Secretary-General of  
The American National Institute.*

(Inclosures:) Copy of letter of recognition to President E. Loubet; copy of letter of recognition to President A. Fallieres; clipping of New York Herald, January 12, 1906.

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[Secretary-General of the American National Institute.]

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS),  
24 Avenue de Saxe, Paris, March 9, 1906.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
*Founder and Director of the American National Institute.*

DEAR MADAM: I take pleasure in forwarding to you by to-day's mail, registered, to your New York address, two important official papers which were sent to me by the courtesy of the prefect of the Seine, M. de Selves. I have had them legalized by the minister of foreign affairs, also certified by the United States embassy, as you will notice by the signature of Mr. Vignaud, first secretary of our embassy and member of the committee of the American National Institute. (Accompanying these papers you will find translation.)

It gives me much satisfaction to send a most important letter, with translation, from Mr. Pascal, which shows continued interest in the work of this eminent architect. His letter shows that we can still depend upon his protection. Mr. Pascal has in a former letter, dated September 6, 1904, given the programme for the plan of construction of the contemplated building of the American National Institute (Prix de Paris) on the ground offered by the city of Paris and State of France.

Mr. Pascal was unanimously elected president for the international competition of the Phoebe A. Hearst architectural plan for the Berkeley University in California. It was in this competition that the talented French architect, Mr. E. Benard, won the first prize of \$10,000.

Mr. Pascal was very pleased to read the letter of Mr. Carrere, dated July 13, 1903. He is well acquainted with the firm—Carrere & Hastings—and has a high opinion of these distinguished gentlemen, and that he will be glad to collaborate with them in the organization of the plan of the building.

Mr. Jouin, whom I mentioned in my former letter as being introduced by Mr. Vignaud, secretary of our embassy, was secretary-general for fifteen years of the Ecole des Beaux Arts. This interview was most interesting and satisfactory. Mr. Jouin is a very intellectual and highly cultured man. He gave me

two very interesting volumes. One the commemoration of the George Washington bronze bust presented to the United States by a group of French citizens, the bust being a masterpiece of the famous French sculptor David d'Angers. (This fact is known to you, as we were present when the distinguished French ambassador, M. Jusserand, made the speech of presentation at the Capitol.) The second booklet is in memory of the presentation of the monument of Thomas Jefferson, containing the speech of Mr. Henry Touin, biographer of the sculptor, David d'Angers, who was the sculptor of the statue of Thomas Jefferson, third President of the United States, which stands in the Capitol of the United States. A replica of this statue was offered last year to the city of Angers, the city of this illustrious sculptor, David, by Mr. Jefferson M. Levy, a kinsman of this great American statesman and President, and constant friend and admirer of France.

Mr. Jefferson M. Levy came expressly last year to France for the purpose of placing this statue in the Museum David, erected in honor of this famous citizen. Mr. McCormick, United States ambassador, was present at this inauguration, which took place at Angers the 16th of September, 1905.

(You no doubt know that Mr. Jefferson M. Levy has decided to offer a monument of his great ancestor, Thomas Jefferson, to the city of New York. The work will be carried out by a French sculptor in Paris.) Let me quote from his inaugural speech at the presentation:

"In presenting this statue to you I do so with sincere pleasure, and thank you for the opportunity that it gives me to express to you how we of America love and honor France. We always have and always will look toward you as our friends who in the time of need offered and extended your hands and aid, and were the great cause of establishing our independence.

"And it is more than appropriate that you, in the heart of France, should have a statue of the greatest statesman and philosopher of modern times. Jefferson was always the friend of France. When representing my country as ambassador to yours he was repeatedly called on by your convention, then in existence, to help in forming a new constitution for your country, and many of his suggestions were adopted that laid the foundation for your great Republic.

"When, afterwards, as Secretary of State under General Washington, and again, when President himself, he befriended the citizen who was your ambassador to the United States and aided France in many ways when at war with Great Britain."

I am sure that Mr. Jefferson M. Levy, being such a warm friend and admirer of France and French art, will be glad to hear of the future realization of the American National Institute, Prix de Paris, and I urge you in the name of our committee to offer him to become a member of the council of honor and a member of our board of trustees, as well with transmitting to him the expressions of our respectful homage.

Mr. Jefferson M. Levy's address is either New York or at his property at Monticello, Va., but, as having been a former Member of Congress at Washington, it will be easy for you to find his exact address there.

Looking forward to receive good news with regard to a glorious and final success concerning our institute,

I remain, faithfully, yours,

HENRI VON DAUR.

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AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE (PRIX DE PARIS),  
Paris, France, January 29, 1906.

In conformity with the action of the Congress of the United States of America in regard to the American National Institute, we, the undersigned, having studied the matter and indorsed the project, will cordially cooperate with the commissioners of the United States Government if any are appointed.

HENRY VIGNAUD.  
FRANK H. MASON.  
FELIX HERBET.  
GEORGE H. BARREY.  
H. VON DAUR.

MATILDA SMEDLEY.

AMERICAN EMBASSY,  
Paris, May 22, 1906.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
1404 M street, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I have received all your letters, and in reply to the last one, dated the 11th instant, I must remark that you seem to be under the erroneous impression that this embassy can take some direct action in the matter of the grant made by the city of Paris to the institute. This is not so. The question has now taken an official shape, and we can not ask anything or suggest any course without instruction. Nor can we accept the transfer of the grant to the United States without authority from the department to do so. This authority is the only thing needed here, and you should devote all your time and energy in getting the department to send it at once. The ambassador has asked for it in an official letter to Mr. Root, dated May 17, in which he says that the transfer of the grant is likely to be made, and asks "what reply I am to make to the city authorities of Paris when they notify me of the transfer of the land?" He adds, in a postscript, that he would like to get this instruction by cable. You can see by this that your work is on the other side where your opponents are and not here where everything is working smoothly.

Your old friend,

HENRY VIGNAUD.

ST. PAUL, MINN., January 18, 1906.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, Washington.

SIR: For years I have been much interested in the American National Institute of which I have known and witnessed good, and believe our nation has come to that period in its history when something must be done, and I see no greater or more beneficial all-around outlook than is set forth in the work to which Miss Smedley has devoted the best years of her life. Honors have been conferred on the work by the French nation to so large an extent it would seem but just and honorable that our Government fully recognize this fact by receiving the ground, now that a solution has been reached, and especially that it is not a precedent, "the United States Government having accepted ground."

I beg your earnest and highest consideration in your transmitting to Congress this generous gift, which I believe to be the only solution to such an article as I take the liberty to inclose.

Each state taking a hand in its share of scholarships will equalize and conserve a great force which will make for good, which now never rises above mediocrity, or goes to evil. It will at the same time place our nation on a higher plane and put us alongside of other nations, where we now begin to realize we do not stand, save in commercialism.

Respectfully,

JOHN IRELAND,  
Archbishop of St. Paul.

JANUARY 18, 1906.

HON. ELIHU ROOT,  
Secretary of State, Washington.

DEAR SIR: I have caused to be forwarded to the President, Mr. Roosevelt, the petition I inclose for your information. The question of the American National Institute has been known in all its details to me since 1895, its clear conception and clean handling by its founder, Miss Smedley, and Mr. Von Daur, secretary-general, who have been honored by the French nation with great consideration, the work having received the indorsement of M. Loubet, *ex-President of France*, and M. Fallieres, the President. The gift of ground so beautifully situated will add to our national honor and satisfy the great cry of our people who believe in an all-around national outlook.

Your high position and experience will have brought you in touch with much that we as a nation lack.

The incorporators consider the institute one of great importance, and will, if carried forward on the lines laid out, soon build up at home what Sir Purdham Clark has so freely discussed, which, while true, should never have been allowed to come to a people who call themselves great. The article does not make a thinking man feel proud.

We beg you in communicating this gift to Congress to send with it a strong report in support of the work and its necessity, and trust that it may bring that august body of Congress to *thinking*. *This I need not urge you to do.*

Yours, very sincerely,

JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN.

[Affaires Etrangères—Direction des Affaires politiques.]

PARIS, 5 février, 1907.

MONSIEUR: Suivant le desir que vous m'en euey exprime cet apris midi, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire savoir que Monsieur G. Louis Directeur des Affaires Politiques sera heuranc de vous recevoir ainsi que Mademoiselle Smedley (Matilda).

Lundil procham y courant a 11 heures.

Veuillez agreet, Monsieur les assurances de ma consideration tres distinguee,

ROGER COSSAN,

*Le Secretaire du Directeur.*

Monsieur HENRI VON DAUR,

*Delegue et Secretaire General de l'Institut National American,  
24 Avenue de Saxe, Paris.*

[Translation.]

PARIS, October 5, 1906.

MISS SMEDLEY,  
*Hotel Powers, Paris.*

DEAR MADAM: I have in hand your new pamphlet of 1905 (Document No. 167).

I am pleased to see that you have obtained the ground we visited together at the corner of Avenue Suffren and Quai d'Orsay, which I recommended to you in 1899. I do not think there is another in Paris so well situated as that one for the American National Institute (Prix de Paris).

I trust you will recall to mind my collaboration at that period (1899) and the disinterestedness with which, as a Franco-American, I accomplished my task.

You no doubt remember, although it is some time ago, how our acquaintance began.

It was in September, 1899, when I was architect of the United States section for the exposition of 1900 that Mr. Peck called me into his office to introduce me to you and the secretary-general of the institute, Mr. Henri von Daur, instructing me at the same time to place at your service my technical knowledge, as also my administrative relations, in consideration of the importance of the work, which was to be under the auspices of the United States Government.

Mr. Peck, whilst begging me to render you this service, added that if his budget was increased by the United States Government, for which he was hoping and of which he expressed himself almost certain, and that if, on your side, with my help, you obtained from the city of Paris the grant of a plot of ground on the borders of the Champ de Mars, he would appropriate the funds thus obtained, with those which he was already disposed to employ on the construction of the national pavilion, to erect a building which, during the exposition, should be the United States Palace, and which should afterwards be given over to the work. Mr. Peck also instructed me to draw out a plan for the institute building.

Unfortunately, Mr. Peck, who had thus engaged you, as well as myself, in this line of conduct, failed to carry out his promise, and that is the reason why your work and my efforts were not crowned with success.

I see from your pamphlet that you have made a great stride forward. I congratulate you upon this and hope that the promises made by the commissary-general of the United States several years back will finally be fulfilled, and that you will be enabled to build up in Paris so great and generous a work.

I take advantage of these few lines to assure you, as in the past, of my entire devotion and collaboration.

MORIN-GOUSTIAUX.

AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE, PRIX DE PARIS,  
24 AVENUE DE SAXE, Paris, February 28, 1906.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Only a few lines to-day to tell you that I had a most satisfactory audience with the new director of beaux arts, who is now a sous secretaire of state, having the rank of a minister. This gentleman has taken a deep interest in the work, and to show his sympathy called the chief of the cabinet for instruction of the beaux arts and the Prix de Rome and instructed him to give me all the documents which could be of value to the organization of the American National Institute.

The sous secretaire does not doubt in the least that our Government will do everything to further such a meritorious work, an honor to France and of immense benefit to our deserving and talented young students.

Yesterday I had a visit by appointment with Mr. Pascal, who is now the architect of National Library, consequently belongs to the ministry of public instruction and fine arts. Mr. Pascal was very nice and will forward me a letter (like Mr. Carrere's), which I asked him to address to you so you can use it to the best advantage at Washington. I will send you these letters as soon as they come into my possession, with an official note.

\* \* \* \* \*  
Respectfully,

HENRI VON DAUR.

CARRERE & HASTINGS, ARCHITECTS,  
New York, July 13, 1905.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Confirming what I said to you and to Mr. von Daur, secretary-general of the American National Institute, Mr. Hastings's and my interest in the entire project is so genuine that we want to help you in every way that lies in our power, and as far as the building is concerned our services in any capacity which you and the directors may desire are entirely at your disposal, and we shall be very glad to consider the matter as a public service without any question of remuneration. We understand that the city of Paris, having donated the land, will require the work to be done under the direction and with the approval of the city architect, with whom we shall be only too glad to collaborate.

Yours, very truly,

(Signed) JOHN M. CARRERE.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
Murray Hill Hotel, New York.

[Copy.]

Ministry of Public Instruction and Fine Arts. Superintendent of Construction,  
National Library.

[Translation.]

PARIS, March 2, 1906.

MISS MATILDA SMEDLEY.

MADAM: By request of Mr. von Daur, secretary-general of the American National Institute, who has kept me well informed since a long time of this meritorious project you are so much interested in—that is, of the founding in Paris of an American National Institute for the purpose of receiving, for a period of years, such students of the United States who have passed at home a competition and would be entitled to pursue their studies in the arts, letters, and sciences under the best auspices—I have the honor to address you my homage and respect for this generous enterprise.

I have heard also of the efforts made by you and Mr. von Daur to obtain the highest patronage in this country and in America, and I am well aware of the generous gift of a beautiful plot of land granted by the municipality of the city of Paris for the erection of said institute.

I renew to you the assurances of my great interest in the success of this work and my participation in your noble efforts in the measure where my good offices can possibly be of assistance to you.

Please believe, madam, the expression of my most devoted and respectful sentiments,

(Signed) J. L. PASCAL,  
Inspector-General of the Public Constructions,  
Member of the Institute de France.



[Translation.]

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AND FINE ARTS,  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, PALAIS ROYAL,  
Paris, January 17, 1905.

HONORABLE SECRETARY-GENERAL:

In response to the very kind letter with which you have favored me, I have the honor to assure you that I am very happy to express my appreciation of the thought which has suggested the establishment of the "American National Institute" in Paris, and I deeply feel the compliment thus paid to our country and its capital in making this choice.

My administration will be happy to second the purposes of the city of Paris favoring this project by furnishing to the representatives of the society all information at our disposal regarding instruction in fine arts, and the methods and regulations which prevail in France for the organization of the beaux arts.

I beg you to accept, Mr. Secretary-General, the assurance of my highest consideration.

H. MARCELE,  
Director of Beaux Arts.

Mr. VON DAUB,  
Secretary-General of the American National Institute,  
24 Avenue de Saxe.

1907 N STREET NW.,  
Washington, D. C., March 2, 1906.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am glad you have returned and hope that this session of Congress may crown your endeavors with success—if not, why not?

Inclosed I send a clipping that might suggest a Waterloo; but in my opinion your work is too far advanced to be defeated.

I return the statement you have made of the Alpha and Omega of your work that I read with much interest, creating a revival of recollections; and permit me to admit that, in my opinion, you fail to make one point as strong as it should be made, for it is vital and could and should be made the basic standpoint of an obligation unfulfilled by our Government, namely, *The French Exposition transaction, 1900, that grounded your ship of success on the coast of delay. Who did it? is the question.* I feel an explanation is due not only to the founder, but an apology to France, for as the matter stands now it has placed our Government in a false position hard to understand—in view of all the pledges, promises, and legislation since that date (1900) apparently with the end in view—to redeem an obligation! The gift should not have been encouraged, had it been undesired, for with nations as with individuals there is etiquette in such matters that must be observed or complications follow.

I wish you would recall a visit I made to your studio to meet Governor Chamberlin to discuss "ways and means," and a decision was reached that gave mutual pleasure that you should devote endeavors to secure scholarships from that date to be prepared for the close of the French Exposition—for the proposed United States building was regarded assured for the Art Institute, as President McKinley and all interested proposed and expected—to be left a memorial of 1900 to carry out your plans to promote the talent of our country and materially aid our students who desire and seek the artistic atmosphere of France, when to the dismay of our people the building was demolished, and your work, aim, and purpose was practically defeated; a building destroyed that had cost our Government thousands of dollars, which should have been erected upon land conceded by the city of Paris, for a specific purpose, with the clear and well-defined understanding that after the building had filled its object to honor the United States it should continue to stand a memorial to art. Why such destruction was permitted I do not know, but I do know, however, that every detail had been carefully worked out, including time and expense, to maintain the foundation through state scholarships and private bequests, that created extended interest then that can not be revived now or at least under the same conditions. The destruction of the building was regarded by those interested not only an outrage to feelings and finance, but an insult to France after the generous concession of a valuable site "to honor art" had been formally made and recognized by our Government. I felt then as I do now that a mistake had been made; and recently the plaster cast episode indicates more than one mistake was made at that time to invite criticisms of our methods in making and accepting gifts.

I have a very decided opinion regarding the whole matter that I will leave unexpressed, but will recall another memory with a suggestion that may "force the situation," with a degree of honor to all concerned, and especially make the donors of the site, patriotically extended, think better of our mode of acceptance.

At one time you were told by an official "that prejudice existed in the minds of some of our public men against erecting an art building abroad under patronage of the Government until our ambassadors were properly provided with homes; that special legislation would be required for the United States to receive and to own estates in Europe," and it was suggested that you defer asking for an appropriation to erect the art building until congressional action could be secured to own embassies as desired. Secretary Hay being a friend to the work, his opinion was regarded judgment. Further the time has come that was forecast. A bill is before Congress to secure an appropriation of \$5,000,000 for home houses for our ambassadors worthy of our country. *If the institute bill is endangered, I suggest an amendment be offered to increase the appropriation \$500,000 to secure a home house for our art pupils.* I believe our people would as willingly provide for our children of talent as for our representatives. *I want both the embassies and the institute, for the seal of a nation means much and is respected next to a flag, and our students should be respected as coequals with any European nation.* We know a country and people is judged by its art and culture, and how better could we enhance our reputations or enrich our country than to promote genius and talent of our people amid proper environments? *It has been argued, "Let our people stay at home." My reply is, We have preliminary means; Europe has finishing methods.*

I still adhere to the plan marked out by my son in view of founding the United States academy of art upon parallel lines of West Point and Annapolis to secure desired results. A preliminary school of art at the capital for our students under competitive conditions; the prize, a scholarship abroad. Had Darling lived, his plan would have received recognition, for our people believe in art, and we are told the voice of the people is the voice of God. Let us hope it will be the vote of Congress.

With renewed assurances and the hope to see you soon, believe me, with every good wish for a speedy realization of hopes desired,

Very sincerely,

FLORA ADAMS DARLING, A. M.

P. S.—There is no argument against receiving European gifts. That point was officially settled when our Government accepted with due honor the gift of Siam, and as set forth in state document 1884 the statue of Frederick the Great from Germany. Personally I prefer real estate. Therefore I wish for embassies and institute, and what I wish for I work for.

D.

PRINCE DEVAWONGSA TO MR. HALDERMAN.

PRIVATE SECRETARY'S OFFICE, GRAND PALACE,  
Bangkok, September 2, 1884.

MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE: In consideration of the strong sentiments of friendship which you and your government have held toward His Majesty's Government, and in consideration of your faithful observance of treaty relations, I have the honor to inform you that my gracious sovereign has been pleased to buy the house now occupied by your excellency as the United States legation, and to present it to the United States Government as a token of His Majesty's strong attachment of friendship for the United States of America. His Majesty trusts that it will be acceptable to your Government. I am commended, therefore, to request that your excellency, as the representative of your Government, take, hold, and possess *in perpetuity* the said house, grounds, and all the buildings and fences in the compound in front of Wat Muang Khel.

I have to add that the yearly contribution of 140 ticals (\$84) to the said Monastery or Wat will not, perhaps, be objected to by your Government, as it has been the custom of all former owners of this place to contribute this charity to that church, and, knowing the good free will of United States citizens, I am sure you will not wish to violate the reasonable customs of the locality. I venture to hope that your excellency will not find it burdensome to comply with this custom; and so, the entire ownership of this property hereby passes to your excellency's Government.

I avail myself, etc.,

DEVAWONGSA VAROPRAKAR.

MR. DAVIS TO MR. HALDERMAN.

No. 57.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, September 11, 1884.*

SIR: I have received your No. 103, of July 16 last, accompanied by a copy of a letter addressed to you, wherein Prince Nares Warariddhi, of the special mission from Siam, lately in the United States, speaks of the cordial reception afforded his mission here. While his letter has been read with appreciation, yet I may observe that the United States Government has always found pleasure in testifying its good will to those foreign Governments which manifest a disposition to become better acquainted with our country, its institutions, and modes of progress; and omits no course which may serve to knit closer their mutual relations of friendliness and material benefit.

I am, etc.,

JOHN DAVIS, *Acting Secretary.*

MR. HALDERMAN TO MR. FRELINGHUYSEN.

[Extract.]

No. 114.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*Bangkok, Siam, September 3, 1884.*  
(Received October 20.)

SIR: His Majesty the King of Siam, in consideration of the American Government's warm friendship and of your representative's "faithful observance of treaty relations," has been pleased to present to the United States the house, outbuildings, and leasehold estate in grounds now occupied by this legation.

Particulars are set forth in accompanying copy of dispatch this day received from His Royal Highness Prince Devawongsa, His Majesty's secretary.

I have communicated to His Majesty my grateful acknowledgments and high appreciation of the sentiment that inspired the gift, and my purpose to report same, without delay, to the President and Secretary of State of the United States.

The house is now occupied by the undersigned, and is the same upon which I had obtained a lease for sixteen years. I have assigned that contract of lease, without consideration or expense, to my Government.

The improvements upon the compound have cost probably \$10,000 or more. The main building, 84 by 58 feet, is of wood, brick, and cement, two stories high, with attap roof, fifteen rooms, and wide verandas. It will be noted that a ground rent of \$84 annually is expected to be paid.

The property is advantageously situated between the British agency and consulate-general and the Siamese custom-house, in the midst of the business part of the city of Bangkok, with a river frontage of 166 feet, extending back 149 feet.

\* \* \* \* \*

I beg to express the great personal satisfaction I have in making this communication.

I have, etc.,

JOHN A. HALDERMAN.

MR. FRELINGHUYSEN TO MR. HALDERMAN.

No. 68.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, October 24, 1884.*

SIR: I have had the pleasure to receive your No. 114 of the 3d ultimo, wherein you announce that His Majesty the King of Siam has donated to the United States a house and grounds at Bangkok for legation purposes.

The President has been much gratified at this generous action of His Majesty, which evidences at the same time his great liberality and his friendship for the Government of the United States, in whose name, by direction of the President, I desire you to express to His Majesty its sincere thanks, adding that *upon the meeting of Congress in December next the gift will be suitably communicated to it.*

I am, etc.,

FRED'K T. FRELINGHUYSEN.

[Buildings and grounds for legation in Siam.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, January 22, 1885.

SIR: I have the honor to advert to the statement of the President in his recent message to Congress that "the Siamese Government has presented to the United States a commodious mansion and grounds for the occupancy of the legation," and to ask that, as provided by the act of Congress approved July 7, 1884, you will address the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House to the end that an appropriation of \$250 may be immediately made to make needful repairs to the premises in question.

This appropriation is urgently asked at the instance of Mr. Halderman, the United States minister at Bangkok, whose dispatch, No. 121, upon the condition of the legation building indicates that certain repairs are necessary. The sum named will probably suffice for the present to put the building in comfortable condition.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

FRED'K T. FRELINGHUYSEN.

HON. HUGH McCULLOCH,  
*Secretary of the Treasury.*

BALTIMORE, MD., July 10, 1899.

I beg to inform Miss Smedley that every undertaking which contributes to the advantage of mankind and scientific improvement of an American student meets with my cordial support, and I hope that the work in which she is engaged will attain the success it deserves.

J. (CARDINAL) GIBBONS.

The active support of Archbishop Ireland has not once faltered. The Rabbin di Temple Emmanuel, Gustave Gottheil, indorsement stands with Archbishop Corrigan's and Bishop Potter's, and each echoes the other. We hope for the success of a work that means so much for our future as a nation.

COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY,  
Williamsburg, Va., April 6, 1909.

Mrs. FLORA ADAMS DARLING,  
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MADAM: I cordially approve the project of an American institute in Paris for students. It would prove a great attraction and convenience, and a great many more Americans would avail themselves of the advantages of the French metropolis than do at present. It would foster a sympathetic collection of home people who would be mutually helpful to one another. I trust that Congress will think favorably of the project.

I am, yours, sincerely,

LYON G. TYLER,  
*President of William and Mary College.*

624 MADISON AVENUE,  
New York City, May 28, 1908.

DEAR MADAM: I am in receipt of yours of the 27th and congratulate you on the progress of the act to incorporate the American National Institute in Paris, which has almost been a lifelong work with you.

It is not necessary for me to refer to the merits and necessity of the establishment of such an institution. I expect you have explained the merits to those to whom you have appealed, and especially to the Members of the Senate of the United States. For that reason I do not wish to interrupt the Members of Congress at this moment with a long letter setting forth from my standpoint the merits of the act. I am familiar with the work from many years of association and I indorse it. If there be any value in reputation, and if I possess any, I am willing to stake much of my reputation on the merits of the measure

and the merciful aid that will be provided to our art students within the walls of the American National Institute in Paris when established.

With the assurance of my sincere regards, I am, faithfully, yours,

JOHN D. CRIMMINS.

Miss MATILDA SMEDLEY.

ST. PAUL, April 14, 1908.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: In accordance with your letter I wrote a strong letter to Mr. Tawney. He now answers that he is very much interested in your project and will do all he can to obtain for it favorable action in Congress. He adds that there must be first an agreement between the State Department and the French Government. I suppose there was some such agreement when Mr. Hay was Secretary of State. Is Mr. Root ready to take up the matter as Mr. Hay did? If so you can call on Mr. Tawney to fulfill his promise.

Very sincerely,

JOHN IRELAND.

Miss M. SMEDLEY.

CARRERE & HASTINGS, ARCHITECTS,

225 FIFTH AVENUE,

New York, May 8, 1908.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: I am delighted to receive your letter and to learn such good news of our project for the American National Institute in Paris. I hope that it will soon materialize, and I want again to assure you of our interest and to remind you that we stand as ready as ever, Mr. Hastings and I, to help you with the building.

With kindest regards, believe me, as ever, very truly, yours,

JOHN M. CARRERE.

Miss MATILDA SMEDLEY,  
New York City.

[Ella Wheeler Wilcox in the New York Journal.]

#### THE FUTURE OF THE AMERICAN STUDENT.

THE AMERICAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE, PRIX DE PARIS, PARIS, FRANCE.

During my stay in Paris nothing interested me more relative to my own country than the American student life in that great center of learning. On inquiry I found to my surprise that there were between 3,000 and 4,000 American students in Paris pursuing all branches of education.

Upon close investigation I discovered that most of them were poorly equipped for their studies, either through insufficient training at home, insufficient means, sometimes from want of real talent, and oftener from not knowing how to place themselves.

It sometimes takes them months before they can settle down to real work. This seems very sad when we think of our boys and girls being 3,000 miles from home with no one to direct them in such an intellectual world as is found in Paris. It simply becomes a maze to them.

In the face of such conditions I was searching for a remedy, when the work of the American National Institute was brought under my notice. I at once became interested, and found in it all the elements necessary to meet the requirements both intellectual and material of our youths. I succeeded in obtaining a copy of an official document published by the United States Government.

This document sets forth the scope of the work which is based upon the same principle, greatly enlarged, of the Prix de Rome and the Ecole des Beaux Arts of France for French students.

Such work carried out as planned on national lines, each State of the Union furnishing its own scholarships by state legislation and private donations, would soon build up in the United States an atmosphere of science, arts, and letters which without such a national institution could never be attained.

The scholarships would permit the prize students to enjoy a three-year course of training under competent masters under whatever branch they were following, for I was happy to find that the broad scope of this work covered all branches of education.

Such an institution, as is to be readily seen, would place the students where they would at once come in contact with what is highest and best and give them a prestige which would command attention and respect, elevate their moral standard, and return them to their country to be an honor and pride.

Furthermore, this institution would create a patriotism in the student from the very fact of its national character; the American dollar as a general fund would support it and American law would regulate it.

I have been highly gratified to learn from some of the most distinguished people themselves what they had already done and were still going to do to advance the work.

The ground that has been given by the municipality of the city of Paris with the indorsement of the French Government of the erection of the institute building is situated in one of the most beautiful and healthy quarters of Paris—on the Champs de Mars, opposite the Trocadero. This ground is to be turned over to the United States Government, the offer having been made in 1899, when it was expected that our Government would have erected thereon a permanent building to serve for the United States Palace during the exposition of 1900, and then given over afterwards for the purpose of the institute. This would have fulfilled the obligation which arose at that time toward the French Government, as is amply set forth by the official documents, and would have encouraged the States and private individuals to reciprocate the generosity of the French nation.

I have further learned upon inquiry that the gift of ground has not yet been withdrawn. I notice also in this document that nothing further is expected from our central Government than to take over the ground and see that a building is erected upon it, thereby assuring to the institute a national character which should be lasting.

To every intelligent American this work from its very nature must appeal, and its initiators should live in the hearts of every American father and mother.

I have found that it has been the "Prix de Rome" that has made France great. Why, then, should not the "Prix de Paris" make America great?

I am really growing enthusiastic over this subject, and intend to pursue it. Anyone to read in the official volume the long series of letters, gifts, indorsements, resolutions, etc., of the most distinguished people of France and America would be astonished and wonder why the United States Government has been so tardy in meeting its obligation to bring about this great benefaction. I consider, as so many others do, that it is the greatest work that has ever been initiated for our country, and that it will bring the most lasting results.

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8 WEST SEVENTY-FIRST STREET,  
New York, May 3, 1905.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: George Washington was aptly called the Father of his country. Since his day there have been Defenders and Preservers. They were all men. But it was left to a woman, which was proper, to win no less distinction in mothering the art of America. And that the Mother of our Art should be a Miss is eminently fitting—nothing could be more in keeping with the tradition and spirit of art. I felicitate you on your noble infant, Prix de Paris, fathered by the ideal and brought forth from a decade of unselfish labor. May it grow to bless you through the centuries! May it put the soul of beauty into our people and place a new star high into the heavens of the world's work!

With profound admiration and equal personal esteem, I am,

Yours, always,

(Signed) RALCY HUSTED BELL.

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VIRGINIA, May 24, 1906.

MY DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: Through the kindness of Mrs. Flora Adams Darling I have been made acquainted with your magnificent, aye, colossal, work in conceiving the idea and founding the American National Institute in Paris. I have tried to study the impression you have made on all the great minds who have considered the subject, and I believe no one could contemplate the work or its object with indifference, and also that everyone who has given it a thought has responded enthusiastically to the one great aim—the preserva-

tion and propagation of American genius as manifested in the youth of our land.

We know that dead and gone nations have left us the inheritance of their songs, their melodies, their dreams in marble. Of all the creations of those myriads of busy hands gone to dust nothing is left to us but art, in poem, song, painting, or sculpture—the highest expression of the deepest emotions of the human heart. And still the history of those creators of art expression is one of crucified souls on the cross of misery and privation; and often, oh, so often, the history of the lost.

When one meditates upon the possibilities of creative genius, blighted by adverse circumstances and starved out by hunger and perhaps shame, one is absolutely grief stricken for lack of such opportunities as your proposed institute offers.

What might not have been accomplished by such shelter and protection had the institution existed since the days of Marie Antoinette in the fair, sweet city of Paris? How many have gone down, blighted as with mildew, because no such institution was in reach?

In the bitter Latin quarter many show moths have been scorched and burned, \* \* \* but the results will assuredly be a national pride when the institute and the Prix de Paris scholarships become a fixed law.

It is not a small or local feature of the universe. Its work will reach out with the power of our floating flag, and from people to people, from age to age, the little germ of philanthropy will become the fruited glory of the beautiful and the great.

*No State can afford to lose the opportunity to take a stand for this institute and the consummation of your most cherished dreams concerning it. It is blessed with your personality and evolved from your personal knowledge of its need, and framed from your experience of Parisian life as lived by artists and instructors; and no proposal could be more wisely and understandingly foisted upon the attention of our Government. It would be an everlasting shame to us and mortify one's sense of national pride if the Government refused to support every measure and proposal involved.*

The States should take the matter up in the legislative bodies and make individual appropriations for scholarships and create individual state committees with headquarters at the national institute, when it shall be firmly established, said committees to be invested with funds and aid in the way of information bureaus and personal and financial help for such of our state students who do not secure the competitive right to all the advantages offered in the national institute. The state committee should, of course, be a part of the national institute, a subordinate office subservient to the officers of the institute.

Every State could and should afford to do this, and the great wealth of our country could not be better applied in part than in the protection, aid, and development of her creative genius along the lines of art and music and literature.

It is my purpose to lay this matter before the young governor of Virginia, and I hope to interest the next legislative body in this state department of the national institute in Paris.

With the cooperation of the States, the appropriation from the Government, and the continued inspiration of the people, there should be neither let nor hindrance in the rearing of this great monument to you, Miss Smedley, its promoter, its founder. "When the earth and all the inhabitants thereof are dissolved, I bear up the pillars of it," said David; and this national institute will be as one of the pillars of the earth, for by its benign influence will not the souls of young artists be saved? With every throb of my heart and every swelling tide of my soul (a soul narrowed by environment), I wish you the utmost success, and that while you are in the flesh to behold it.

(Signed) EVA GRAND MALONEY.

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AMERICAN FLAG HOUSE AND  
BETSY ROSS MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION,  
Philadelphia, Pa., December 15, 1908.

DEAR MISS SMEDLEY: From the initial of your work, it received my approval; but as you know, I was engaged in a national work—saving the "Old Flag House" now an accomplished fact.

At all times, Miss Smedley, I have watched your work and hoped the memorial tribute designed by you, to honor permanently our French allies, men who helped to establish and maintain the flag of a new nation, would be consummated. As the foundation now stands you are to be congratulated, also your country.

I believe under the control of the State Department, the American National Institute, Prix de Paris, France, will become a great benefaction, and it is just to believe the several States of our country will gladly cooperate in the work and aid in the progress of our American Institute, inspired by the knowledge that they are under the glorious flag of this country, protected by it, and maintained by the generous support of their friends at home.

With renewed expressions of my esteem, believe me, very truly, yours,

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

[From The New York Herald, Paris, Thursday, March 16, 1905.]

LONDON, *Tuesday.*

Sir Caspar Purdon Clarke, who has just returned from America to finish up his work as director of South Kensington Museum, preparatory to leaving England to take up his new appointment as director of the Metropolitan Art Museum, of New York, explained his views to a Herald correspondent yesterday as to how American art might best be promoted and improved.

"Encouragement," he said, "should be given by Americans to American artists. An American artist, as things are now, has little chance of having his work appreciated until he is dead and buried, and then it is the dealer who is the gainer and not the artist or his survivors.

"Occasionally an artist makes his name before he dies, sometimes by the merest chance, sometimes because he decides to change his style entirely and catches the public's eye by so doing. Then he is inundated with orders and becomes a marked man. As a rule, however, he remains buried in obscurity and obtains from dealers only very moderate sums for work deserving of high remuneration."

#### DEPENDENCE ON DEALERS.

"Mind you, I do not wish to run down American art dealers. They must live, like other people. But the American artist ought to have a chance of having his good work recognized and appreciated by the public otherwise than through the medium of the dealers.

"How effect this, you ask? Well, for one thing, the American museums ought to be regarded as not merely storage places for specimens of art, of the antique and of objects of interest, but also as centers for art education, on which should be dependent, as is the case with this English museum, numerous colleges, schools, and art centers all over the country.

"They should contain large studios, where, as was the case in the old days of Michael Angelo and other famous masters, the great artists of the day should be encouraged to work themselves and educate up the coming generation to high ideals of art.

"The great American artists ought not to be practically forced, as they are nowadays, to seek for a market in Europe. They ought to be encouraged to come back to their own country and teach what they have learned to their own fellow-countrymen. And this, too, is applicable, remember, to all branches of art, to ceramics, art furniture, textiles, and so forth.

"Look at the South Kensington Museum. We supply the whole country with specimens and copies of specimens of real art. These are loaned to the schools and are used to teach the English people what art is. We supply teachers of art to every part of the world."

#### WHAT AMERICA NEEDS.

"Well, similar facilities ought to be given to art students in America. Good work always tells, but the worker ought to have a chance of seeing his work appreciated before his death. See this watch, for instance." (Here Sir Caspar pulled from his waistcoat pocket an American gold watch.) "The makers of this watch now sell watches at Geneva, the very center of the Swiss watch-making industry. In the same manner facilities ought to be given to American artists to have their works of art seen and valued by the general public.























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